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GREAT BRITAIN. COLONIAL OFFICE

Annual report on Cyprus

1949

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COLONIAL REPORTS

# Cyprus

## 1949



LONDON: HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

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**THE SERIES OF COLONIAL REPORTS** which was re-introduced for the year 1946 (after suspension in 1940) is being continued with those relating to 1949. It is hoped that the territories for which 1949 Reports are being published will be as listed on cover page 3.

**REPORT ON**  
**CYPRUS**  
**FOR THE YEAR**  
**1949**

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LONDON: HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

1950

PRINTED IN CYPRUS

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The cover illustration shows Hilarion Castle, near Kyrenia

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## PART I

### Review of the Year

THE Right Honourable Lord Winster, P.C., K.C.M.G., left Cyprus on February 9th, 1949, on leave prior to his resignation from the office of Governor and Commander-in-Chief; his resignation took effect on March 30th.

On May 10th Sir Andrew Barkworth Wright, K.C.M.G., C.B.E., M.C., Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Gambia, was appointed Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Cyprus. Sir Andrew arrived in the Colony on August 4th.

#### ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

1949 saw a welcome reduction in the adverse balance of visible trade to approximately £2,900,000, compared with £9,700,000 in 1948.

The value of imports was approximately £11,000,000 compared with £15,400,000 in 1948. Exports rose to £8,100,000 as against £5,600,000 in the previous year. The main increases in exports were in cupreous concentrates, asbestos, potatoes, barley, iron pyrites, cuminseed and artificial teeth. The main decreases in imports were in wheat, barley, edible oils, textiles, cigarettes, cement, chemicals, drugs and medicines, machinery, electrical goods and timber. Exports included considerable consignments of citrus to Germany, the first since the war, and successful experimental shipments of fresh grapes to the United Kingdom and Scandinavia which, it is hoped, may produce much-needed new outlets for Cyprus grapes.

There was a substantial reduction in shipments of wines and spirits, but the demand for these improved towards the end of the year. World-wide exchange restrictions increased the difficulty of securing export markets.

In response to representations from the commercial community, Government sponsored a Trade Mission to the United Kingdom which left for London in June. Headed by the Controller of Supplies and comprising representatives of the Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Pancyprian Farmers' Union, as observer, the Mission had talks with officers of the Colonial Office, Board of Trade and Ministry of Food and did everything possible to explain the nature of the island's difficulties. The visit has already had some beneficial results.

The policy of relaxing controls was further pursued. In March it was possible to dispense with the adulteration of bread with barley. In August the rationing of rice was abolished. The range, quantity, and price of food-stuffs on the market during the year compared very favourably with those in other countries and

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the position generally was much better than in most. Control of the distribution of petroleum products was abandoned in April, but an unforeseen emergency necessitated a partial revival for a few days in November.

The trade recession led to an increase in unemployment which was particularly marked in the vine and potato-growing areas. The mining industry, however, flourished and provided good opportunities for employment. During the summer the number of unemployed in the island was considerable and to alleviate distress various public works were put in hand. Some improvement was recorded later in the year and by October the figure had dropped appreciably.

For the first time in many years, prices showed a tendency to fall. In October, 1948, the official cost of living index stood at 347; by July, 1949, it had fallen from that peak to 315 but it rose in succeeding months until it stood at 329 on December 31st.

It had for some time been recognised as desirable that the cost of living index should be computed upon a post-war basis and an eminent statistician, Mr. W. B. Reddaway, of Cambridge University, was commissioned to examine the construction of the index in the light of present day conditions and to make recommendations for its adjustment or reconstruction. Mr. Reddaway prepared a valuable report and his recommendations were adopted in full.

Industrial relations in 1949 showed a marked improvement over the previous year. 1948 had witnessed a series of bitter and protracted industrial disputes punctuated with acts of violence: the number of man days lost approached a quarter of a million. The number of man days lost in 1949 did not exceed 4,000. The Government's industrial conciliation service is continuously on the alert to deal with industrial troubles at their source.

An outstanding piece of labour legislation was the revised Trade Union Law enacted in January, 1949. This measure embodies prevailing United Kingdom practice except that, as in comparable legislation in other colonies, registration is compulsory.

#### DEVELOPMENT

The balance of the Development Fund on January 1st, 1949, was £1,060,714. The estimated expenditure during the year was £621,115 and the revenue, including the transfer of £200,000 from the budget, was £394,886, leaving a balance in the fund at the end of the year of £834,485. The total expenditure under the Ten-Year Development Programme up to the end of 1949, that is for the first four years of the Plan, has been £1,746,555, which is slightly more than 4/10ths of the total projected expenditure on first priority schemes so far approved. In the difficult circumstances of the post-war years it has been a notable achievement to keep to the time table.

In these four years more than £300,000 have been spent on anti-malarial work, more than £500,000 on irrigation and village water supplies and £44,000 on soil conservation equipment and projects.

## AGRICULTURE

1949 was the best crop year that the island has had for a very long time. Plentiful and regular spring rains produced a bumper cereal harvest. The good return, coupled with the remunerative prices paid by Government, did much for the financial stability of the cereal farmers. In all, 25,000 tons of wheat and 34,000 tons of barley were purchased by Government.

Olives, too, were an excellent crop and growers' fears that prices would drop to an uneconomic level were not realised.

It was unfortunate that the year's bountiful vintage should have coincided with a sudden collapse of the export market for vine products. To assist growers, Government instituted a scheme for the disposal of their products and offered to purchase all zivania and raisins produced during 1949. Although this scheme met with some criticism at the start it is generally realised that, had it not been put into operation, vine products would have remained unsold or would have had to be disposed of at give-away prices.

The Soil Conservation Branch of the Department of Agriculture continued to make good headway in its efforts to foster farmers' interest in better land use. Sufficient machinery has been obtained to enable a variety of works to be carried out.

## MINING

The mining industry prospered. The value of minerals exported was over £3,700,000, a record figure. Some 5,000 workers were employed and it is gratifying to record the absence of any labour dispute. To obtain a more accurate knowledge of the island's mineral resources Government has applied for a grant from the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund to enable a detailed geological survey of the mineralized areas to be undertaken.

## FORESTRY

Further progress was made in the protection, maintenance and development of the island's forests. Measures for the eradication of grazing and control of illegal cutting in the southern forests, the most extensive forest area, have been largely successful, and reafforestation proceeds. Efforts are now being concentrated on the eradication of goat grazing, an essential prerequisite of reafforestation, in the Northern Range. To facilitate protection it is proposed to construct a forest road from east to west along the entire length of the range and to connect focal points on it by telephone. The road will offer the tourist some of the finest and most impressive scenery in the Middle East.

## WATER SUPPLY AND IRRIGATION

Despite a shortage of pipes, more work was done on village domestic water supply schemes than in any previous year and the drilling of bore-holes proceeded much faster than in 1948, itself a record year. Thirty-two villages were provided with new domestic supplies. More than 90 irrigation schemes were completed and 29 more were under way at the end of the year.

## HEALTH

The health of the community was again good and there was no serious incidence of infectious and epidemic disease. On the contrary, there was a significant reduction in the number of cases of diphtheria. A marked increase of typhoid in villages prompted the initiation of measures for controlling this disease through inoculation, through extermination of flies and, at longer term, by working for improved sanitation in rural areas.

The death-rate was one of the lowest on record and, indeed, one of the lowest in the world; the infant mortality rate compared very favourably with other countries in the Middle East.

The beneficial results of the Anopheles Eradication Campaign have already become evident. Infants can now develop without danger of the retardation, both physical and mental, which so often accompanies chronic malaria.

## EDUCATION

Expansion of the activities of the Education Department depends on a more plentiful supply of qualified elementary schoolteachers, and consideration is being given to the extension of training facilities for men and women teachers. Successful refresher courses for existing staff were run during the summer holidays and specialised teachers of music, art and physical training were appointed for service in elementary schools as well as in the Training Colleges. The beneficial results of Government's scholarship scheme are now being felt: of 27 scholars 17 are now on duty and giving valuable service. An important new establishment will be the Rural Central School for Turkish boys which will be built in 1950. It will be similar to the school at Morphou, which will henceforth be reserved for Greeks.

## HOUSING

By the end of the year, 208 workers' houses had been completed under the scheme in which municipalities have been assisted with long-term loans from Government, totalling £177,800, and subsidies amounting to £25,600 from the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund. A further 32 houses are under construction. The rents charged are from £30 to £36 a year.

## CIVIL AVIATION

The new terminal buildings at Nicosia Airport were completed in May. They provide excellent facilities for the expeditious and comfortable completion of medical, immigration and customs formalities, with a restaurant and offices for airline operators and their agents.

## TOURING

The appointment in September of an experienced officer to fill the post of Director of Touring permitted the establishment of a Cyprus Tourist Development Office in the centre of Nicosia.

## TURKISH AFFAIRS

In the summer of 1949 the Turkish Affairs Committee presented its report to Government. It contained some complex and far-reaching proposals to which careful consideration has been given and certain specific recommendations, capable of early fulfilment, have been approved.

## MALTESE REFUGEES

Soon after the final closure of the Jewish illegal immigrant camps, Government in July again afforded shelter to a party of homeless people, 400 British subjects of Maltese extraction. These persons, who have lost all connection with Malta, lived formerly in various Balkan countries. When, in 1941, the Balkans were threatened by German invasion, they were evacuated for safety, first to India and thence to Eritrea. The uncertain political future of Eritrea and the impossibility of settling the Maltese in their former homes impelled His Majesty's Government to ask the Government of Cyprus to receive them on the understanding that the cost of maintaining them would be borne solely by United Kingdom funds. The Maltese are at present accommodated in a special camp at Xylotymbou and efforts are being made to assimilate them, where practicable, into the economy of the island.

## FLOOD DAMAGE

It is a matter of deep regret that the end of a year with so much progress to record should have been overshadowed by floods unprecedented in local memory. In all, 23 persons lost their lives. The destruction of house property was less than was feared and energetic measures, reinforced by the generosity of public subscription, were taken to aid the sufferers. Damage to soil—much of it manured and sown—in the Eastern Mesaoria was serious and village roads and bridges suffered heavily. The bursting of the Kouklia Reservoir will entail costly repairs : the banks were broken, fortunately without danger to life, after the level of water over the spillway had indicated the biggest floods since the reservoir's construction 50 years ago.

## PART II

### Chapter 1 : Population

THE civilian population of Cyprus on December 31st, 1949, was approximately 480,000, representing a density of 134 per square mile. There has been an increase of 30,000 persons, or 6.6%, since the last census held in November, 1946. At that time the population was distributed as follows :—

Males ..	222,510	Females ..	227,604
----------	---------	------------	---------

Cyprus is almost wholly made up of two distinct communities, Greek and Turkish, together with a number of Armenians, Maronites and other minorities. At the 1946 census the communities were :—

Greek ..	..	..	361,199 or 80.2%
Turkish ..	..	..	80,548 or 17.9%
Others ..	..	..	8,367 or 1.9%

Nicosia, the capital, is the largest town and is situated in the centre of the island. The other towns are all on the coast. In 1946 their populations were :—

Nicosia (including suburbs) ..	53,234
Limassol ..	22,799
Famagusta ..	16,194
Larnaca ..	14,772
Paphos ..	5,803
Kyrenia ..	2,916

The three largest towns were found in 1946 to have grown rapidly since the previous census and there are indications that this increase continues.

The following figures show the natural growth of the population :—

	<i>Births</i>		<i>Deaths</i>		<i>Natural increase</i>
1947 ..	15,158	..	3,875	..	11,283
1948 ..	15,078	..	3,974	..	11,104
1949 ..	13,234	..	4,243	..	8,991

The decline in the number of births in 1949 can be related to the leap-year, 1948, in which, as is the custom among the Greek population of Cyprus, relatively few marriages were solemnised. To indicate the current vital rates, therefore, the averages of the three years 1947-1949 are given :—

Births per thousand of mean population ..	31.1
Deaths per thousand of mean population ..	8.6

There is no substantial difference between the vital rates of the main communities.

The following figures illustrate the standard of fertility in Cyprus :—

Net reproduction rate, 1948	..	..	..	1.68
Mean age of mother of babies born in 1948	..	..	29 years	
Mean expectation of life at birth, males	..	..	57.3 years	
Mean expectation of life at birth, females	..	..	59.3 years	

During 1949 the number of deaths was somewhat higher than in the preceding years, but the rate has recently been exceptionally low owing to favourable age grouping and it remains among the lowest in the world. Births and deaths registration has been greatly improved under a new law which came into effect in 1948, and now includes information about the causes of death. It has also become possible to classify births and deaths by the place of residence.

Emigration of young adults has been common in Cyprus for many years ; it is to some extent counter-balanced by settlement from outside the island and by the return of emigrants. It is not possible to give details of this migration, but the following are the net figures of persons entering and leaving the island :—

	<i>Excess of departures (—) or of arrivals (+)</i>				
1947	..	..	..	..	— 2,238
1948	..	..	..	..	+ 351
1949	..	..	..	..	— 1,048

As the figures quoted earlier show, the population has a heavy natural increase, which is barely affected by the amount of the net emigration. Even though there are indications that this natural increase may be beginning to slacken, the population must be expected to continue rising for the present at something like 2% per year.

## Chapter 2: Occupations, Wages and Labour Conditions

### OCCUPATIONS

More than one-third of the working population of Cyprus is engaged in agriculture, which is the basis of the island's economy. The great majority of these—at least 45,000—are independent peasant farmers, while another 20,000 work as agricultural labourers. Mining, principally for copper and asbestos, absorbs 5,000 people and forestry 1,000.

About 36,000 people are employed in manufacturing. Operations are on a small scale, consisting almost entirely of production for the home market. There is, however, some manufacture for export of wines, buttons, false teeth and lace (hand-made by village women). There are more than 4,000 hand loom weavers, but the number is decreasing.

Building, public works and the supply of electricity and water give employment to about 7,000 people. There remain 62,000 engaged in the distributive trades, transport and communications and governmental and professional services. Excluding more than 2,000 coffee shop owners and managers, there are about 2,000 people in the hotel and catering trades.

Just under one-fifth of the working population are women and girls. Of these 13,500 work in agriculture or as general labourers. Fewer than 1,500 are engaged in non-manual work and of these about 650 are teachers. More women, however, are now taking up employment and some are entering fields hitherto regarded as the prerogative of men.

One serious problem is the insufficient degree of specialisation of labour, which is reflected in a low level of efficiency in many branches of industry. Few industrial workers have served any apprenticeship and there is a tendency for them to drift from one occupation to another. Conditions, however, are improving and the necessity of training within industry is gradually becoming understood.

#### WAGES, HOURS AND EMPLOYMENT

Wage rates vary sharply according to the degree of skill but the following figures may be taken as representative :

	<i>Earnings per day</i>
Agricultural workers .. . . . .	5s. - 13s.
Bakers .. . . . .	12s. - 16s.
Builders' labourers .. . . . .	7s. - 10s.
Carpenters .. . . . .	10s. - 16s.
Masons .. . . . .	12s. - 17s.
Mechanics .. . . . .	9s. - 15s.
Metal workers .. . . . .	8s. - 20s.
Miners .. . . . .	8s. - 12s.
(men on piece rates earn more)	
Shoemakers .. . . . .	7s. - 12s.
Tailors .. . . . .	9s. - 18s.

Women's earnings in all these trades are a good deal lower, ranging from 4s. to 12s. a day.

The tendency throughout 1949 was for wages to fall. This was due to a decline in the export demand for agricultural products, reduced purchasing power in the pockets of the villagers and the emergence of unemployment for the first time on any scale since the early days of the war. Retail prices remained fairly stable. The cost of living index (to be replaced in 1950 by a more representative retail price index) stood at 334 in January and 329 in December, having fallen to 315 in July and August; there were declines in all groups in the index except working class rents.

The usual working week is of 44 hours. In agriculture hours vary between eight and eleven a day.

The number of wholly unemployed rose to about 5,000 in June, fell to half that number during the peak of the harvest (late August to October) and began to rise again towards the end of the year. There are Government labour exchanges, aided by newly-appointed advisory committees, at Nicosia, Limassol and Larnaca.

#### LABOUR ORGANISATION

The principal trade union group is the Communist-led Pancyprian Labour Federation with some 8,500 members. Opposed to the Federation is the Nationalist Cyprus Confederation of Workers, with a growing membership estimated at between 3,500 and 4,000. The separate Turkish trade unions have little more than nominal membership. There are about 1,300 Government employees organised in civil service associations. Employers' organisations are weak, making difficult the development of sound industrial relations.

Although Cyprus is not so prosperous as during the war, the trade unions are maintaining their strength. During 1949 the left unions lost some members and the right unions achieved a more than corresponding gain. Both wings of the trade union movement (that is, apart from the associations of civil servants) are deeply immersed in politics.

In sharp contrast to the previous year, 1949 was remarkably free from industrial disputes. A total of 3,420 man-days were lost through strikes and lockouts compared with 226,890 in 1948. But it is too early to state that there has been any permanent improvement in industrial relations.

The Department of Labour has offices in the four largest towns and inspectors and labour exchange officers visit all parts of the island. The conciliation service has been strengthened. A Labour Advisory Board, consisting of equal numbers of representatives of employers and workpeople, meets at intervals under the chairmanship of the Commissioner of Labour.

## Chapter 3: Public Finance and Taxation

#### REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

For the last three years revenue and expenditure under the main heads has been as follows :—

Head	Revenue		
	1947 £	1948 £	1949 £
Customs .. .. ..	2,739,524	2,732,418	2,053,421
Excise and Licences .. .. ..	493,657	922,648	934,085
Miscellaneous Receipts .. .. ..	342,842	274,773	240,236
Income Tax .. .. ..	599,954	967,440	883,041
Colonial Development and Welfare			
Grants .. .. ..	80,734	90,162	185,517
Interest on Government Moneys .. ..	162,004	214,336	140,282
Fees of Court or Office, payments for specific services .. .. ..	173,677	232,003	192,316
Stamp Duties .. .. ..	143,710	137,377	171,300
Immovable Property Tax .. .. ..	81,753	50,989	51,002

*Expenditure*

Miscellaneous .. . . .	844,961	1,063,041	90,811
Colonial Development and Welfare			
Grants .. . . .	60,087	167,132 ( <i>see Appendix</i> )	
Reserve for Development .. . . .	350,000	720,000	200,000
Education .. . . .	269,003	387,074	374,244
Public Works Annually Recurrent .. . . .	223,430	237,730	287,178
Police .. . . .	154,048	233,784	215,128
Medical .. . . .	171,011	218,905	212,587
Public Debt Charges .. . . .	121,423	124,632	124,306
Administration .. . . .	125,466	130,251	129,380
Pensions and Gratuities .. . . .	118,700	151,000	169,522
Supplies, Transport and Marketing .. . . .	938,924	1,136,845	91,055
Reserve against claims for relief payments to Cypriot British subjects in enemy-occupied territories during the war .. . . .	400,000	—	

Totals of Revenue and Expenditure for the last three years are :—

Year	Revenue	Expenditure	Balance
	£	£	£
1947 .. . . .	5,121,176	4,607,079	+ 514,097
1948 .. . . .	5,915,985	5,812,952	+ 103,033
1949 .. . . .	4,957,844	4,595,148	+ 362,696

**PUBLIC DEBT**

The Colony's public debt on 31st December, 1949, amounted to £2,903,492. 2s. 2p. represented by the following loans :—

Designation	When raised	Gross amount of Loan, less redemp- tions to 31.12.49 £	Rate of Interest	Sinking Fund at 31st De- cember, 1949
				£ s. p.
4% Inscribed Stock 1956-1966 .. .	1932	615,000	4%	178,607 4 7
3% (Inter-colonial) Stock, 1972 ..	1938	207,300	3%	77,278 14 7
Premium Bonds, 1945 (Local Issue) ..	1945	493,680	—	73,780 15 7
3½% Development Stock, 1968-1978 (Local Issue) ..	1947	7,450	3½%	—
3% (Inter-colonial) Stock, 1970 ..	1949	108,108.2.2	3%	1,889 10 3

*(b) Unfunded Debt.*

Designation	When raised	Total amount raised £	Rate of Interest	Amount repaid £ s. p.
War Loan, 1943	1943	500,000 0 0	1%	20,920 0 0
War Loan, 1944	1944	500,000 0 0	—	16,580 0 0
Savings Loan, 1943	1943-1946	1,130,589 5 0	3%	621,135 5 0

### CUSTOMS TARIFF

The following figures show the relative import duties charged :—

	<i>Value of Imports</i>	<i>Import Duty</i>
Specific .. .. .. ..	£ 1,673,550 ..	£ 1,094,378
<i>Ad valorem</i> (ranging from 3 to 100 per cent)	4,577,732 ..	801,570
Free of import duty .. .. ..	4,761,948 ..	—
Total .. .. .. ..	<u>11,013,230</u> ..	<u>1,895,948</u>

### MAIN HEADS OF TAXATION

The main heads of taxation are detailed in the first part of this section.

#### *Excise*

Excise duty is payable on :

Tobacco manufactured in Cyprus at the rate of £3 2s. 8p. per oke, in addition to import duty. Excise duty paid on tobacco during the year was £687,10s.

Matches manufactured and sold in Cyprus at a rate equal to the import duty payable on matches of British Empire origin imported into the colony. No excise duty was collected on matches during the year as the factory in Nicosia, opened in 1946, did not operate.

Playing cards manufactured and used in Cyprus at two-thirds of the import duty payable on playing cards of British Empire origin imported into Cyprus. There is at present no local manufacture of playing cards.

#### *Licences and Fees*

A licence fee of £100 annually is payable for the establishment and working of a factory for the manufacture of matches ; £1 for the manufacture of playing cards ; and six shillings on each proof gallon of spirit contained in intoxicating liquor issued for local consumption from a licensed factory. £94.157 was paid during the year for the manufacture of intoxicating liquor.

Licences and fees are also required for the sale of tobacco and intoxicating liquors, for sponge and boat fishing and for the examination by the veterinary authorities of animals destined for export. £20,177 was paid during the year for licences for the sale of intoxicating liquors, and £4,709 for tobacco-selling.

#### *Stamp Duties*

In addition to stamp duties on cheques, agreements and receipts, fees are collected in stamps for the registration of clubs, firearms and patents and the issue of passports. £171,300 was credited to revenue during the year in respect of stamp duties not adjusted to other specific items of revenue.

## INCOME TAX

Income tax, which was imposed for the first time in 1941, is levied on the chargeable income for the year preceding the year of assessment. Relief is given for children and life assurance or pension fund premiums. The tax is based on a graduated scale which rises more steeply in the higher income groups. A differentiation is made in favour of married taxpayers.

Companies and similar bodies pay at a flat rate of 7s. 4½d. in the £ and deduct this tax from any dividends declared; credit is given to the shareholder for the tax thus paid in calculating his personal tax liability.

Collections from income tax amounted to approximately £880,000 in 1949 as against £967,000 in 1948.

The following table gives examples of the tax liability on various incomes :—

<i>Income</i>	<i>Tax payable by</i>		
	<i>Bachelor</i>	<i>Married Man</i>	<i>Married Man with Two Children</i>
£	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.
250	Nil	Nil	Nil
500	21 13	16 5	12 10
1,000	88 6	66 5	61 5
2,500	796 17	541 5	518 15
5,000	2,516 5	2,016 5	1,983 15
10,000	6,216 5	5,716 5	5,678 15

## ESTATE DUTY

Estate Duty, introduced in 1942, is levied on the estate of any deceased person at rates which increase with the value of the estate. Relief is given in respect of quick succession where the property consists of immovable property or a business.

Collections from estate duty amounted to approximately £43,000 in 1949 compared with £37,000 in 1948.

The following table shows the scale of estate duty :

<i>Net Value of Estate</i>	<i>Estate Duty Payable</i>
£	£
2,000	Nil
2,500	40
5,000	140
10,000	715
25,000	3,845
50,000	9,995
100,000	23,595

## Chapter 4: Currency and Banking

The currency in circulation on December 31st, 1949, was as follows:

(a) *Currency Notes* (£5, £1, 10s., 5s., 2s., 1s. and 3 piastres)  
= £4,789,894 16s. 3p.

(b) <i>Coins</i>		£	s.	p.
Silver (45, 18, 9, 4½ and 3-piastre pieces)	..	269,990	2	3
Cupro-nickel (18 and 9-piastre pieces)	..	140,000	0	0
Cupro-nickel	} (Piastre, half-piastre and Copper .. quarter-piastre)	29,999	18	0
Bronze ..		7,446	12	0
		36,190	0	0

*Note:* The Cyprus pound is equal to the pound sterling and is divided into 180 piastres; nine piastres equal one shilling.

The chief banks in Cyprus are: the Ottoman Bank, Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), the Ionian Bank, the Bank of Athens, the Bank of Cyprus, the Popular Bank of Limassol, the Popular Bank of Paphos, the Turkish Bank of Nicosia and the Agricultural Bank of Cyprus.

## Chapter 5: Commerce

Import and export licensing was maintained throughout the year and the advice of the Import Licensing Advisory Committee, set up in 1948, was sought on all major questions.

The main purpose of import licensing was to conserve those currencies with which the sterling area had balance of payments difficulties. Export licensing was maintained for exchange control purposes and to ensure that only genuine surpluses of the island's produce were exported. The responsibility for import and export licensing and exchange control was vested in one authority and this arrangement proved eminently satisfactory.

Imports fell substantially during the year, mainly because stocks depleted or exhausted during the war had been completely replenished and the spending power of the public had dropped. Improved world supplies of essential commodities made it possible for Government to remove control from all save three items. Government still obtains and distributes wheat and barley, whether locally grown or imported.

Exports increased in 1949 and good prices were realised for citrus, considerable quantities going to Germany for the first time since the war. Experimental shipments of fresh grapes in refrigerated ships were made to the United Kingdom and Sweden; on the whole the fruit arrived in good condition and there is every hope that this trade will increase to substantial proportions in future years. The price paid for carobs, although lower than in 1948, gave a fair return to producers. The bumper crop of wheat and barley, which was all bought by Government, brought prosperity to cereal growers. 24,000 tons of barley not needed for local consumption were exported to Israel and Denmark.

The main outlet for vine products, particularly wines and brandy, was virtually closed, importers in the United Kingdom—already carrying heavy stocks of Cyprus products—being unable to take significant quantities. The position became so serious that Government decided to institute a Vine Products Scheme under which producers were obliged to sell all raisins and zivania (grape alcohol) to Government at fixed prices. Growers were thus assured of a market and Government undertook to distribute any profits from the scheme after expenses had been deducted. By the end of the year export prospects, particularly for wines, had improved and purchasers had been found for the raisins ; sales of zivania were, however, disappointing.

Imports amounted to £11,000,000 compared with £15,400,000 in 1948, the largest items being wheat (£1,300,000) and machinery (£800,000). The United Kingdom supplied 44% of all imports (38% in 1948), Australia 14% (8%), the United States 6% (4%) and Italy 5% (5%).

Exports showed an encouraging increase, totalling £8,100,000 compared with £5,600,000 in 1948. Invisible exports were still considerable and more settled conditions in the Middle East resulted in an increase in the tourist trade. Major exports were :—

			£
Cupreous concentrates	..	..	1,731,000
Cupreous pyrites	..	..	287,000
Iron pyrites	..	..	757,000
Asbestos	..	..	520,000
Carobs	..	..	666,000
Oranges	..	..	461,000
Wines and spirits	..	..	163,000
Seed potatoes	..	..	145,000

Early in the year trade restrictions imposed by nearly all countries raised such barriers to exports from Cyprus that Government decided to sponsor a trade mission to the United Kingdom. This went to London in June and had discussions with various departments of His Majesty's Government. The mission was composed of representatives of Government, the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce, the Association of Cyprus Industries and the Pancyprian Farmers' Union ; beneficial results from its efforts were felt in Cyprus before the end of the year.

### *Spinning Mill*

Government decided to sell the Spinning Mill in Nicosia since it was considered it had served its purpose and that private enterprise should be given the opportunity of taking it over. The mill was built in 1944 to supply the island with cotton yarn which became very scarce as a result of the war. Negotiations for the sale had not been completed by the end of the year.

## Chapter 6 : Production

### AGRICULTURE

Despite the limited rainfall, varying from 14 inches a year in the main arable area of the plains to nearly 40 inches in the mountains, agriculture is the main occupation of the people of Cyprus.

A wide range of crops is produced and many of them provide important exports. Unfortunately, in spite of this wide range, monoculture of vines and lack of diversification of husbandry is prevalent.

In addition to perennials, olives, carobs, citrus, vines and deciduous fruit, there are three main classes of crop—those grown entirely on winter rainfall; those grown in spring and early summer on moisture stored in the soil from the winter rains augmented by flood water; and those grown mainly or entirely by means of perennial irrigation from springs, wells and bore-holes. In an average season about 11% of the arable land is irrigable from flood water in the winter and spring. Only 3½% is perennially irrigable.

The principal winter (rainfall) crops are cereals, winter legumes (for example, broad beans and vetches) and linseed. Spring (flood-irrigated or late winter rainfall) crops include "dry" cotton, tobacco and fodder maize. Summer (fully-irrigated) crops include cotton, sesame, melons, haricot beans and cowpeas.

The livestock industry is likely to grow in importance as mixed farming develops. Owing to the deficient rainfall and hot dry summers, no natural pastures exist all the year round. The island is, therefore, dependent for most of its meat, milk and milk products on flocks of sheep and goats which are able to maintain themselves on poor, rough grazing in waste places and scrub land, and on stubbles and weed aftermath following the cereal harvest. The tethered feeding of improved types of goat continues to increase. Native cattle are kept for work and to some extent for meat. Dairy cows, mainly Shorthorns, are found only in or near large towns and are almost entirely stall-fed. Pigs and poultry are widely kept. Mules, donkeys, cheese, and hides and skins are important exports.

#### *Crops*

Winter crops were, in general, exceptionally good during the 1948-49 season. Rains were late at sowing time but regular falls during the early spring kept crops growing. Effective rains stopped rather early but the cool weather in late spring allowed the crops time to mature on the retained soil moisture. The incidence of disease in cereals was very low. Conditions proved favourable for reaping and threshing and there was an increased use of mechanised equipment which enabled many farmers on the plains to deal quickly with heavy crops. The value of the use of artificial fertilisers to stimulate crop yields was most apparent. Government was the sole purchaser of wheat at 7*p.* an oke (just over £31 a ton), and offered to purchase barley at 4½*p.* an oke (£20 a ton). In all, Government

purchased 25,000 tons of wheat and 34,000 tons of barley. The price offered for barley proved to exceed the world market price and, with good yields, growers did well.

Winter and spring legumes yielded well and considerable quantities of pulses were exported at remunerative prices to growers. Lentils, in particular, were in good demand. The Department of Agriculture again helped the production of fodder legumes by making stocks of seed available to growers. Spring and autumn crops of haricots yielded satisfactorily.

Potatoes continued to be a popular crop in irrigated areas. The late spring delayed growth and the hot weather during the maturing of the crop was detrimental to yields. The export demand for ware potatoes was disappointing. The Department of Agriculture has introduced regulations controlling the export of certified seed potatoes and the quality of the field inspected seed won praise from the Greek authorities who purchased some 5,000 tons. This resulted in a great demand for the field inspection of autumn sown crops with a view to their certification for seed.

Fruit crops were exceptionally free from insect pests. There was some overseas demand for the good cherry crop, but the export market for deciduous fruit, especially for the heavy plum crop, was disappointing. The cool spring allowed the citrus crop in the Morphou and Lefka areas to be marketed locally very late in the season. Over 450,000 cases of citrus were exported during the 1948-49 season and by the end of the year exports from the new crop had exceeded those of the previous season. A ready market is being found for new crop citrus in Scandinavian and other European countries. The Department of Agriculture has been able to meet most demands for planting material from its nurseries.

The season proved very favourable for vines and it was unfortunate that the excellent crop was followed by a lack of export demand. To avoid catastrophic falls in prices, Government, on the recommendation of a Vine Industry Rationalisation Committee, undertook to purchase all stocks of zivania and good quality raisins. The prices fixed were regarded by growers as low, but they were promised the return of any profits accruing. There seemed to be general agreement at the end of the year that the scheme had saved many growers from ruin.

Government is perturbed by the dependence of so many people on vine-growing as their sole means of livelihood and is seeking to encourage alternatives. One important development during the year was the export of fresh grapes to the United Kingdom. More than 1,000 tons of grapes were shipped under refrigeration; officers of the Department of Agriculture supervised their packing. This new trade should encourage growers to convert their common vines to improved varieties. Financial aid is given in approved cases, but growers up to now have been reluctant to lose crops for several years until the new scions come into production.

The olive crop was exceptionally good. Modern hydraulic presses and processing plant are rapidly gaining in popularity, but, although this plant has given an increased yield of oil, it has not been used to full advantage to obtain an improved quality of oil comparable with that of Greece and Italy. The Department of Agriculture continues to carry out investigations aimed at improving yields. The demand for new planting stocks has been heavy and it appears that the establishment of the new olive nurseries by the Department of Agriculture will be fully justified. Government is encouraging the roadside planting of olive trees in suitable areas.

### *Livestock*

The condition of animals and milk yields from flocks were poor following the unusually severe winter, but the cool spring enabled flocks to regain much of their lost condition before the advent of the hot weather. Pig-keeping received a setback early in the year due to a sharp fall in the price of lard and the number of breeding stock was reduced. The plentiful harvest, especially of barley, later stimulated a keen demand for young pigs for fattening. Government is investigating the possibility of developing the pig industry. During the year Government imported five Saanen goats, four Dairy Short-horns and four pairs of rabbits from the United Kingdom, and 20 sheep from Sardinia for breeding. The scheme for the purchase and resale of young breeding goats continued successfully.

The Poultry Extension Scheme made satisfactory progress but Newcastle Disease caused severe losses during the summer months. Quarantine was imposed in infected villages and compulsory inoculations were carried out. By the end of the year 270,000 birds had been inoculated and the disease was considered to be under control.

The annual anthrax vaccination campaign was undertaken and 547,000 sheep and goats were immunised. No cases of blue-tongue were reported and 18,549 sheep were vaccinated on a voluntary basis. Parasitic gastro-enteritis was low throughout the year and external parasites caused little trouble. Phosphorus deficiency in cattle was diagnosed during the early months of the year.

The prices of livestock products were well maintained. Exports included 1,707 mules, 1,740 donkeys and 312 head of cattle.

### *Development*

The Department of Agriculture continues to stress the importance of diversified husbandry in all areas of the island. Its aims are to maintain and develop good strains of plants and animals, and it continues to carry out much investigation. Noteworthy is the progress made in finding methods, which can be economically employed by the ordinary farmer, of controlling the leaf miner of cereals (sirividhi).

The Soil Conservation Service is making headway in its efforts to foster the farmers' interest in better land use practices. Sufficient

earth-moving machinery has been obtained to enable the service to carry out a variety of tasks. These include the levelling of fields, the construction of training banks to facilitate the spreading of flood irrigation, the erection of contour earth banks and the construction of gradoni terraces on steep slopes preliminary to the planting of vines and tree crops. In all these works a substantial contribution, amounting sometimes to the full operating costs of the machinery or labour, has been made by farmers. In co-operation with the Water Supply and Irrigation Department a flash flood detention dam has been constructed. If successful, it is anticipated that there will be considerable scope for such structures.

Four of the six olive nurseries envisaged under the Ten-Year Development Plan have now been established, covering an area of just over 60 acres. Investigation on olives is being carried out under the supervision of a fully-trained Agricultural Research Officer assisted by an officer who has completed a course of training in olive culture in the United States.

The deciduous fruit stations established under a Colonial Development and Welfare grant are now in full operation and the Department of Agriculture is in a position to meet all expected demands for deciduous fruit stocks.

Tobacco cultivation and processing investigations are being undertaken by the Tobacco Officer who has made a thorough survey of the local industry. His activities are being financed from Colonial Development and Welfare grants. Attempts are being made to introduce a growers' marketing scheme aimed at improving the quality of tobacco exported.

#### *Overseas training of staff*

One student who had been sent to England for a course of instruction obtained his B.Sc. and the National Diploma in Agriculture and returned for duty as an Assistant Superintendent of Agriculture.

Two students returned for duty as Agricultural Assistants after training in England for one and two years respectively. One officer with previous livestock training in England completed a further course at the Dairy School, Ioannina, Greece. Two other officers are taking advanced courses in horticulture and oenology, respectively, in Australia and five students are taking a year's course in England, three in general agriculture and two in animal husbandry.

#### *Refresher Courses*

Four agricultural officers spent a month in Italy studying agriculture, especially soil conservation and animal husbandry. Two officers visited the Izmir Fair and a Veterinary Inspector visited an Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition in Cairo.

## CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

The co-operative movement in Cyprus serves as a model for less advanced territories and many visitors have come from overseas to study its activities.

Twenty new societies were registered in 1949, bringing the total to 611. These have an estimated membership of 95,000, an increase of 10,000 over the previous year. The majority of the societies (400) are credit societies which accept deposits, give loans to members and supply farmers with their agricultural needs. Deposits with these societies in 1949 amounted to more than £1,000,000. Co-operative savings banks have been established for school-teachers, civil servants and wage-earners.

There has been a rapid growth in the number of consumers' co-operative stores : from 44 in 1946 to 109 in 1949. The marketing movement has also progressed and marketing unions have been formed for carobs, vine products and potatoes. There are primary marketing societies for fruit and vegetables. Societies have also been used as distributors of rationed commodities and as agents for the Government purchase of cereals.

The core of the movement is the Co-operative Central Bank which holds deposits from member societies amounting to £500,000, with reserves of £190,000. During 1949 the Bank issued £634,000 in loans and supplied farmers with fertilisers, sulphur and seed potatoes to a value of £278,000.

Ten years ago the farmers of Cyprus were in the hands of money-lenders and middlemen. The co-operative movement has helped them to avoid exploitation and to advance towards better living.

## FISHERIES

Fisheries in the territorial waters of Cyprus are supervised by the Comptroller of Customs and Excise, who is also the Government Inspector of Fisheries.

Good quality sponges are taken, mostly by fishermen from the Dodecanese. Sponge fishermen pay a licence fee and surrender part of their catch to Government.

Three hundred sailing boats, 20 small, engine-assisted sailing boats and 14 trawlers (12 Cypriot and two Italian), employing 925 persons, caught 355,212 okes of fish, valued at £83,315, during 1949.

## FORESTRY

Close on 700 square miles of Cyprus—one-fifth of the total area of the island—are covered by forest growth. Of these about 500 square miles are under the control of the forest service, that is, are both safeguarded and included in plans for improvement. These plans aim at giving fuller protection to the forest lands and ensuring that they carry the maximum possible crop of trees.

Reclamation of bare areas in the Southern Mountains by sowing pine on various forms of contour earthworks is now far advanced and one-third of the areas classified as blank have been reclaimed.

In the Northern Range forests the preliminary step to reclamation—the abolition of grazing—has been taken almost everywhere and experimental plots to indicate how techniques employed in the Southern igneous ranges can be applied to the limestone formations of the Northern Range have been systematically laid out.

The scheme for Village Fuel Areas is much appreciated. Some of the earlier plantations have already begun to yield fuel; many of the original areas have been increased and new ones continue to be established.

The principal road project during the year has been the East-West road along the Northern Range to connect the forests along its summits. The first section will be open for traffic in 1950. Construction of telephone lines has continued and work on the Northern Range telecommunication system is in progress.

The building for the Forest School, which is expected to serve many Middle Eastern countries, started as soon as weather permitted and the main block has been raised to first floor level.

The publicity campaign against forest fires, which was begun in 1948, was repeated on an even bigger scale and a marked improvement was shown. Fires were fewer and the damage caused was small.

Two Forest Assistants and two Forest Rangers accompanied the Soil Conservation Officer and three officials of the Department of Agriculture on a tour of Italy. Three scholars returned after completing their studies in the United Kingdom; another scholar left for the United Kingdom.

#### MINING

Extensive ancient workings and slag heaps testify that Cyprus was an important producer of copper during Phoenician and Roman times; some authorities hold that the word "copper" was derived from the name of the island.

From the Roman period until the British occupation in 1878 mining appears to have been neglected, but in recent years it has developed into an industry of great economic importance. The principal minerals produced are cupreous pyrites, asbestos, chrome iron ore, umber and gypsum.

In 1949 the value of minerals exported amounted to £3,710,180. This was easily a record, showing an increase of £1,117,579 over 1948, when the previous highest valuation was recorded. There was a substantial increase in the tonnages of all minerals mined with the exception of umber.

There was a fair amount of prospecting during the year, principally by the larger companies. Forty prospecting permits were issued. Operations were mainly directed to geophysical prospecting and churn drilling.

Petroleum Development (Cyprus) Ltd., a subsidiary of the Iraq Petroleum Company, which held an oil exploration licence for a number of years, completed geological and geophysical investigations

at the end of 1948. In view of the unfavourable geological structure disclosed, the company gave notice that it would abandon further operations.

Cupreous pyrites is the most important mineral produced in Cyprus and the whole output for the year came from the Mavrovouni mine of the Cyprus Mines Corporation and the Kalavasos mine of the Hellenic Mining Company. The ore from the Mavrovouni mine is sent by rail to a treatment plant at Xeros, where cupreous concentrates and pyrites are prepared for export. The ore from the Kalavasos mine is exported in its crude state.

During 1949, 927,915 tons of cupreous and iron pyrites were mined; 479,588 tons of pyrites, 111,390 tons of cupreous concentrates and 2,010 tons of cement copper were exported, the value amounting to £2,968,810.

Asbestos is produced by Cyprus Asbestos Mines Ltd. from quarries at Amiandos on Troodos. The asbestos-bearing rock is quarried, treated in mills and graded into three qualities. These products are transported by an aerial ropeway 19 miles long to the coast and exported in the unmanufactured state. There is little local demand for asbestos. In 1949, 11,098 long tons of fibre, worth £520,795, were exported, compared with 7,980 tons, valued at £374,940, in 1948.

Chrome iron ore (chromite) is found in the Troodos area and deposits are worked by the Cyprus Chrome Company, Ltd. The ore is transported by aerial ropeway, 2½ miles long, to a concentrating plant where the low grade ore is sorted and concentrated. The high grade ore is exported in lump form. 15,589 tons of chromite were mined during the year and 14,640 tons of lump ore and concentrates, valued at £115,077, were exported. There is no local consumption.

Gypsum is quarried at many places. It is exported in the crude state and, after being ground and calcined, as plaster of paris. Plans for expanding production are being considered by two enterprises. During 1949, 16,971 tons of raw gypsum and 7,008 tons of calcined gypsum were exported.

Umber is produced from surface and shallow underground workings, mostly in the Larnaca district. Part of the output is exported in the raw state and part after being pulverised and calcined and graded into the required shades. Competition and the use of synthetic products by consuming countries have had an adverse effect on production. During 1949, 3,623 tons of umber valued at £34,275 were exported. Very little umber is consumed locally.

#### OTHER INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

*Cigarette manufacture.* Six factories produced an average of 22 tons of cigarettes monthly from imported and locally grown yellow-leaf tobacco.

*Soap manufacture.* Sixteen factories manufactured 2,000 tons of laundry soap, compared with 1,450 tons in 1948.

*Boot and shoe manufacture.* Only three workshops use machinery for the manufacture of footwear, but there is an island-wide craft industry turning out hand-made boots and shoes. Exports totalled £10,000 compared with £4,000 in 1948.

*Tanning.* One tannery treats imported hides and, supplies permitting, can satisfy a substantial portion of the island's requirements of sole leather. A factory for the manufacture of upper leather was established during the year. A village tanning industry treats local skins used for lining.

*Button manufacture.* Of the two factories manufacturing buttons for export to the United Kingdom and the Middle East countries one went into liquidation and closed down early in May. The total value of exports during the year amounted to £88,700 compared with £170,705 in 1948.

*Brick, tile and pottery manufacture.* Hollow bricks and tiles, mosaic, cement, and earthenware are made by two large factories and a number of small undertakings. Six hundred workmen are engaged.

*Artificial teeth.* The one factory produced 68,002 gross of artificial teeth, valued at £86,821, which were exported to the United Kingdom and Middle East countries.

*Beer.* Two small breweries operated during the year, and the building of a big, up-to-date establishment was begun; this hopes to start production in 1950.

*Chocolate.* A small factory manufactures chocolates.

*Macaroni.* Five macaroni factories supply the local market.

*Cheese.* Thirty-two small factories produced approximately 366 tons of cheese, part of which was exported.

*Animal fodder.* Two factories produce cubes, pellets and mixed fodders for animal feeding.

*Cotton yarn.* Cotton yarn spun by the two existing mills can satisfy the requirements of the local market.

*Cottage industry.* The manufacture of high quality lace is the major cottage industry, employing 1,200 workers. The preparation of dried figs and other fruit is another important village industry.

*Silk.* A factory has been established for the spinning and weaving of locally produced and imported silk.

*Gum.* Substantial exports were made by the old-established gum factory.

*Soap oils.* Three factories supplied sufficient olive kernel oil to meet the demands of the local soap industry. Small quantities were exported.

*Essential oils.* A factory has been established for the distillation of essential oils; it obtains much of its basic requirements from its own plantations.

## Chapter 7 : Social Services

### EDUCATION

#### *Elementary Education*

Elementary schools, which are free and voluntary, are open to all children between the ages of six and fourteen and are attended at some time by more than 90% of the child population. Parents, particularly in country districts, show a tendency to withdraw their children before they complete the full course of six years but this "wastage" is less than it used to be. Something like 60,000 school-children were enrolled in 1948-49; they were taught by more than 1,500 teachers.

Separate schools exist for each religious community, the two main groups being Greek (48,000 pupils) and Turkish (11,000 pupils). Except in a few cases in the towns and larger villages, boys and girls are educated together.

<i>Community</i>	<i>Number of Schools</i>	<i>Language of instruction</i>
Greek .. .	484	Greek
Turkish .. .	206	Turkish
Maronite .. .	5	Greek
Armenian .. .	4	Armenian
Latin-Catholic.. .	4	Greek/French

703

English is taught as a second language in the two top classes of 190 of these schools.

Even in the remotest hamlets schools are to be found, the smallest number of pupils for whom a separate school is provided being seven.

During 1948 a Model School was established in Nicosia and in 1949 another four Model Schools were set up. Some of the staff of these schools have been trained in the United Kingdom.

Organising teachers for Music, Art and Physical Training visit schools to give additional help in these subjects; they also conduct evening classes for teachers.

There are in Nicosia two preparatory schools catering for children of English parentage. The older of these was founded in 1944 by the British Council but is now administered by a board of governors; the other is privately owned.

The military authorities maintain Army Schools in Nicosia and Famagusta.

There are a number of privately-run infant schools, mostly in the larger towns, but none of these is supported out of the colony's funds.

*Organisation* : Local committees in towns and villages provide and maintain buildings, books, stationery and equipment while the Director of Education provides the teachers. He also arranges for loans and the supervision of the construction of buildings. On all matters of general policy the Director is advised by separate Boards of Education of the Greek and Turkish communities and by committees representing the other religious bodies. These advisory boards consist of private persons nominated by Government.

*Finance* : The 1949 budgetary provision for all educational services was just over £600,000, or 12% of the colony's expenditure. The main cost was the salaries of elementary teachers, but expenditure on administration and inspection and on the training of elementary teachers is also met from the colony's revenue. Elementary education accounts for 89% of the educational expenditure.

### *Secondary Education*

Secondary schools exist in all towns and in twelve villages. There are 41, not counting three branch "feeders" in district towns of the large Turkish Secondary School in Nicosia. More than 10,000 pupils are enrolled (22 per 1,000 of the population), of whom 3,000 are girls. The age-range is from 12 to 20, the course usually lasting six years. Only about 5% of the population live more than twelve miles from a secondary school.

Fees are paid in all secondary schools but grants-in-aid (totalling £50,000 to ten schools) lower the average fee and ensure a specified number of free places.

Most of the schools are mixed but in four of the larger towns there are separate schools or sections for girls.

There are 431 teachers, giving a teacher-pupil ratio of one to 23. Since 1939 the number of boys in secondary schools has doubled and the number of girls nearly trebled.

*Curriculum* : Twelve Greek secondary schools, with an enrolment of 5,100 pupils, adopt the classical (gymnasium) curriculum of the secondary schools of Greece. The Turkish Secondary School has a section (200 boys) similarly influenced by the lycée curriculum of Turkey.

The English School in Nicosia (453 pupils), the only boys' school under close Government control, is run on the lines of an English residential grammar school and prepares pupils for the London matriculation examination. Two other schools, the American Academies for boys and girls (557 pupils in all), run on the American system, adopt English as the chief language of instruction and prepare pupils

for the University of Beirut. They also enter candidates for London matriculation. The Melkonian Institute, controlled by the Armenian General Benevolent Union, provides secondary education for Armenian boys and girls, especially those handicapped by financial difficulties.

*Percentage of total enrolment according to curriculum :*

(1) Classical (Greek and Turkish)	..	..	50.4%
(2) General cultural type	..	..	10%
(3) General with subsidiary commercial	..	..	14%
(4) Commercial ..	..	..	17.5%
(5) Turkish Modern	..	..	3.6%
(6) English Modern	..	..	4.5%

English is taught as a second language in all secondary schools but the number of hours allotted varies considerably.

*Finance :* The average annual cost of secondary education per pupil is just over £22. Boarding fees in residential schools vary from £34 to £60 a year. In some schools the tuition fees are fixed and in others individually assessed according to the financial means of the parents, the maximum being as high as £70.

Payment of a Government grant-in-aid is conditional on the school complying with conditions regarding the curriculum, terms of employment of staff, fees, etc.

*Higher Education*

There is no university or university college in Cyprus. The only provision existing in 1949 was that of a small evening chemistry class of up to intermediate standard. Before the war many students went to universities in Greece and Turkey and some to Beirut; a few attended continental universities and, more rarely, those in the United Kingdom. To-day, however, the demand for higher education in the United Kingdom is great and some interest has been shown also in Dominion universities. An increasing number of students looks to the United Kingdom for higher legal, commercial and technical education in institutions other than universities. There is some demand for admission to United States universities but the dollar exchange position has greatly hampered this development.

This desire for higher education is reflected not only in the number of applications for vacancies but also in the increase of entries for London matriculation (160 in 1949 compared with six in 1939) and for examinations of London University at the intermediate standard : before 1939 an entry for this examination was exceptional ; in 1949 there were twelve entrants : ten of these sat and four were successful. One candidate successfully sat for Final B.A. (General).

It is unfortunate that this very real increase of interest in higher studies should have coincided with unprecedented calls on the accommodation of British universities, resulting in much unavoidable disappointment.

Government has continued its scholarship scheme for the training of Cypriots for posts of higher responsibility in the Government service in administration, education, medicine, agriculture, forestry, antiquities and accountancy. The scheme is financed by funds obtained under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act. Provision is made for the grant of scholarships of an average annual value of £340 for courses ranging from one to six years. Most of the scholars are sent to the United Kingdom but some attend courses in places (e.g. California) where climatic conditions are similar to those in Cyprus.

Government scholars in the United Kingdom	50
Government scholars in other countries ..	1
Government scholars returned to Cyprus ..	39

Sixteen of these scholars have taken up posts in the Education Department.

The British Council has also awarded scholarships to Cypriots, the basis of selection being more generally cultural. These scholarships are usually tenable for one year but in exceptional circumstances have been extended. Since 1938 twenty-one scholarships of this kind have been awarded, including twelve to elementary schoolteachers; but in view of facilities provided for training under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act these scholarships are being replaced by a scheme of short-term visits. Many vacation courses in the United Kingdom have been attended by Cypriots. The Rotary Club has provided a scholarship in methods of teaching deaf and dumb children, which commenced in 1949.

#### *Training of Teachers*

All elementary schoolmasters, Greek, Turkish and Maronite, are trained in the Government Training College at Morphou. There are 124 students under instruction, all resident. No fees are charged for tuition or boarding. The students follow a two-year course in general school subjects, the theory and practice of teaching, and agriculture. Some students stay on to take a specialised third year course in agriculture at the Rural Central School, which adjoins the college.

Temporary quarters exist in Nicosia for a two-year course for schoolmistresses with an annual intake of 30 girls (20 Greek and 10 Turkish). The establishment of a Training College similar to that for men has been delayed and no boarding accommodation is available. An English principal was appointed in 1947. There are six Greek and Turkish lecturers, all trained in the United Kingdom.

In the summer, vacation refresher courses were held in two centres and attracted over 620 elementary teachers. A similar course for secondary teachers was organised by the British Council assisted by the Education Department. Teachers from the Lebanon joined in this course.

### *Commercial Education*

Of the 41 secondary schools, five are commercial schools and eight teach commercial subjects in addition to the usual academic curriculum. In all, 16 schools, including institutes not recognised as secondary schools, prepare students for London Chamber of Commerce examinations.

### *Technical Education*

An Apprentices' Training Centre offers a five-year course of instruction to indentured apprentices in engineering and allied trades. The apprentices receive practical instruction on three days a week in the workshops of the Public Works Department or private employers, and theoretical instruction in the Centre on 2½-3 days a week. The scheme, now in its fifth year, provides for an annual intake of 20 apprentices. At present there are 81 apprentices: there will be 100 when the scheme is fully operative.

Evening classes in technical subjects are now also held at the Apprentices' Training Centre for artisans employed by the Public Works Department and by private employers. In 1949 there were 67 students enrolled.

### *Agricultural Education*

Government maintains a Rural Central School offering a two-year course in the theory and practice of agriculture to the sons of farmers who themselves intend to settle on the land. Entrants must have completed the six-year course of an elementary school and have worked for two years on their own land. No boarding or tuition fees are charged. The boys maintain the school farm of 50 acres and devote approximately half their time to the theory of agriculture and general education. Agricultural activities include dry farming and the intensive cultivation of general farm crops and vegetables, maintenance of livestock, dairying, sheep and pig breeding, poultry, and citrus and deciduous fruit production. The boys live in simple houses in a miniature model village.

The scheme for the improvement of school gardens, which now number 374, has been resumed under the direction of a specially trained officer. In schools with gardens a syllabus of rural science has been introduced to replace the more formal elementary chemistry and physics taught in town schools. The supervisors of school gardens are responsible for the co-ordination of practical work with science-teaching in the classrooms.

### *Development*

Under the Ten-Year Programme of Development, a new boarding-house has already been provided for the English School, expenditure has been undertaken at the Reform School at Lapithos, the training scheme for apprentices has been extended and the training of the necessary staff in all fields of education is well advanced. £10,000 has been granted to help poor villages with elementary school buildings.

When staff is available two new Agricultural Schools on the lines of the Rural Central School will be started in areas where climate and terrain present somewhat different problems.

#### *Public Examinations*

Government examinations in English are held annually and are taken by 1,600 students, mostly from secondary schools. External examinations of the University of London are held regularly. In 1949 there were 160 entrants for matriculation and 119 sat; ten out of twelve entrants sat for intermediate. The examinations of the Commercial Education Department of the London Chamber of Commerce in book-keeping, shorthand and typewriting are taken twice a year. In 1949 the number of candidates was 809 compared with 330 in the previous year.

Eight candidates for the LL.B. examination of the University of London, who had entered in Palestine and were prevented by disturbed conditions in that country from taking the examination there, were allowed to transfer their entries to Cyprus. As arrangements are now being made for the conduct of examinations in Israel, such candidates are not likely to come to Cyprus after 1950.

#### *Music and Art*

The Cyprus Philharmonic Society, with a membership of 150, gives regular concerts in Nicosia and encourages local talent; there is a Philharmonic Junior Orchestra.

The landscape of Cyprus cries aloud for a great painter to make it his own. Among the English residents there are artists of a wide range of ability but no school has emerged. A number of Cypriot painters produce work of real talent but there is a shortage of patrons and even the best of the local artists have to exist by teaching unselected classes in secondary schools. Art exhibitions are held from time to time.

The needle-lace of Lefkara and the neighbouring villages attracted the attention of Leonardo da Vinci and a high standard is still maintained. Very attractive embroidery is done in the Paphos District and the colour-choice of the woven material from the Karpas Peninsula, at the north-east of the island, is particularly happy. Unfortunately, the carving of designs in wood is a dying art.

The Association for Cyprus Studies unites the best scholars in the island and publishes an interesting annual journal with articles, generally in Greek but occasionally in English, on subjects of historical, etymological and social interest.

#### *Welfare Services*

The Welfare Service is concerned mainly with probation work in the juvenile courts. It also distributes ingredients to poor villages to provide a hot drink for schoolchildren during the cold weather; about 2,000 children received this beverage daily for three months.



CYPRUS FARMER....



....AND CYPRUS FISHERMAN  
Digitized by Google

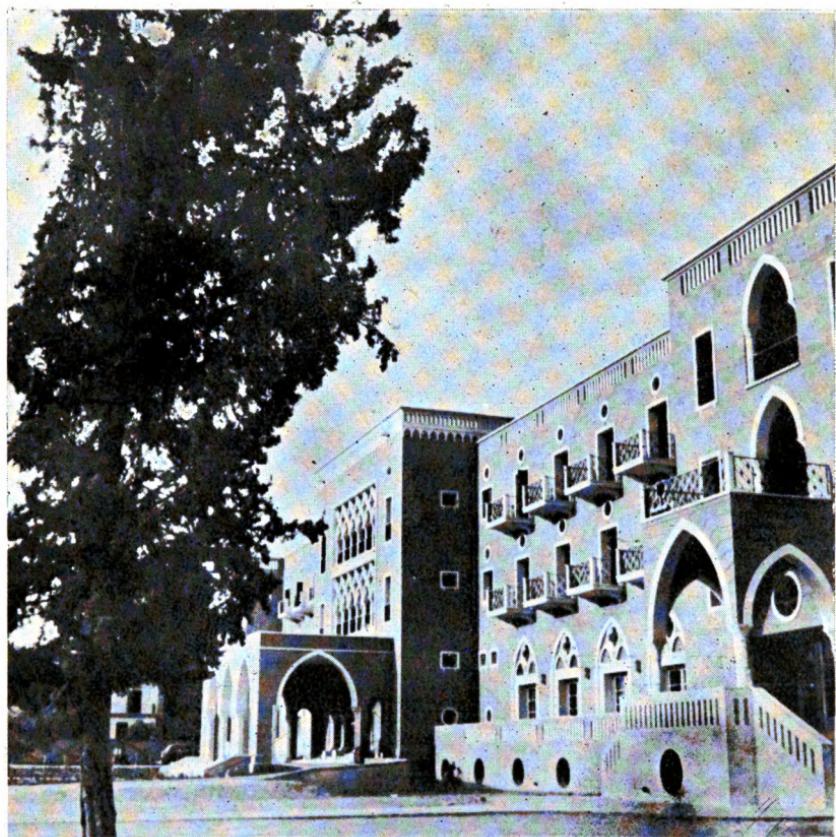


MODEL SCHOOL IN NICOSIA

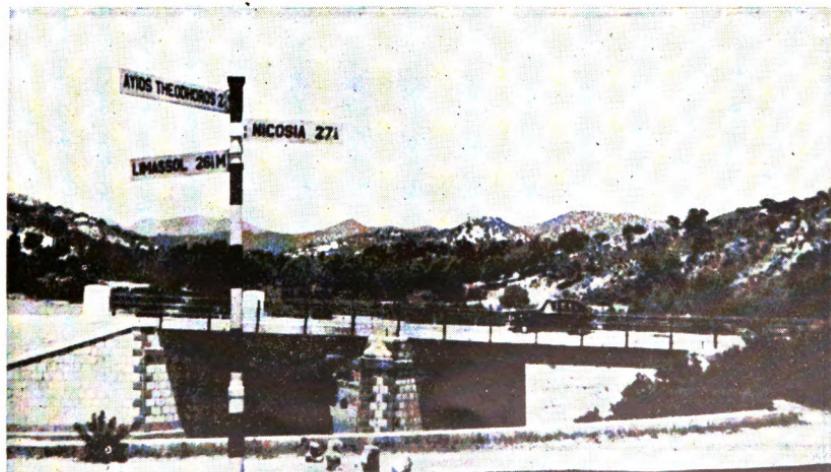


FOREST ROAD, KYRENIA RANGE

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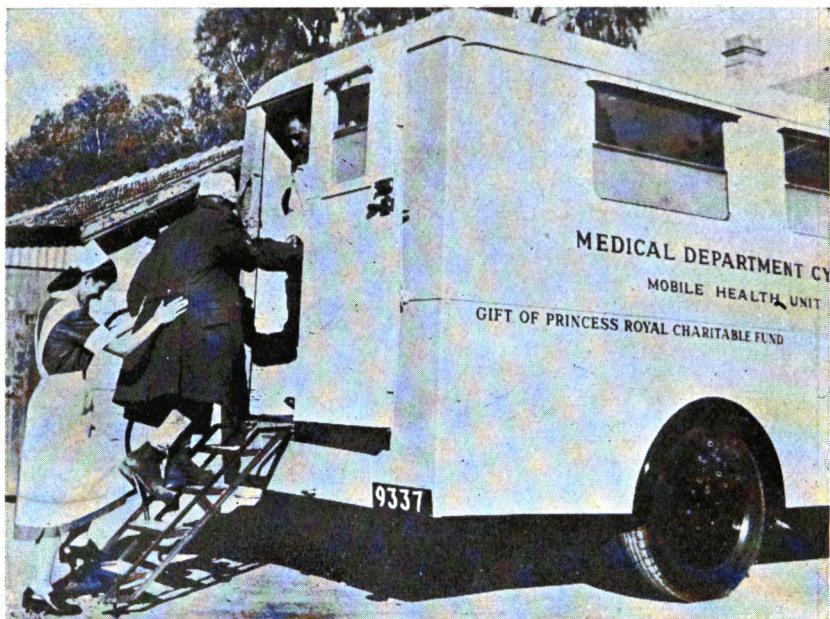


A NEW HOTEL IN NICOSIA



A RECENTLY CONSTRUCTED BRIDGE

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MOBILE HEALTH UNIT SERVING 25 VILLAGES



CO-OPERATIVE CAROB STORE AT BOGHAZ

In addition the welfare staff handle cases of difficult children referred to them by schoolmasters and others and carry out social background investigation work for bodies such as St. Barnabas' School for the Blind. From time to time welfare officers undertake investigations on behalf of the Prison After-care Committee.

The average number of children and young persons under the supervision of the welfare officers, either by court order or under licence from the Reform School, during the year was 320. The staff of five welfare officers has been increased to eight male officers and one part-time female officer.

New buildings are being erected at the Reform School, Lapithos, with the aid of a Colonial Welfare and Development grant. The work is carried out by the boys of the school under three instructors and good progress has been made. Some of the boys released during the year are employed on the work. A house has been rented in Lapithos to accommodate them and a member of the staff of the school sleeps there. These boys receive the current wage for the work they do and are able to maintain themselves without any assistance from other sources.

*Prison Classes* : During 1949 evening classes for convicts were held in the Central Prison in Nicosia. The instructors were six elementary schoolteachers who taught reading and writing to 99 illiterates and did more advanced work with 152 other convicts.

#### HEALTH

Cyprus is a particularly healthy country, free from dangerous infectious diseases such as cholera, plague and epidemic typhus. The malaria mosquito, formerly widespread, has been completely eradicated in a campaign that has won world-wide acclaim.

Leishmaniasis, visceral and cutaneous, sandfly fever and infections of the intestinal tract do occur, but not to any great extent.

For the person who is prepared to take the usual elementary precautions, Cyprus offers a healthier life than many countries, free as it is from the parasitic diseases common in some adjoining territories.

#### *Infectious Diseases*

The notifications of infectious diseases over the past few years have been as follows :—

Year	Trachoma	Typhoid	Tuberculosis			
			(all forms)	Diphtheria	Dysentery	
1945	..	880	..	275	..	99 .. 114
1946	..	1,039	..	224	..	99 .. 191
1947	..	592	..	236	..	141 .. 126
1948	..	547	..	211	..	41 .. 47
1949	..	562	..	303	..	30 .. 21

### *Medical Facilities*

There are adequate facilities to deal with all the usual run of medical work. Health and sanitation problems are the concern of the Medical Department, which maintains a modern general hospital in Nicosia and smaller hospitals in the principal towns. There is a specialist staff at Nicosia hospital consisting of a surgeon, physician, pathologist, radiologist, ear, nose and throat surgeon, gynaecologist and obstetrician.

In addition to the main hospitals, there are 18 rural hospitals and 27 private nursing homes.

The staff of the Medical Department includes 57 whole-time medical officers and many part-time doctors.

Every poor person is entitled either to free or low-cost treatment at a Government hospital or dispensary, while regular employees of Government and their families receive free treatment under the Government's Social Insurance Fund.

### *Venereal Diseases*

Well-equipped venereal disease clinics and prophylactic centres function in all the big towns.

### *Dental Care*

Government dental officers are stationed in all main centres. Some of them undertake systematic tours of the villages, carrying out regular inspections and treatment of the schoolchildren's teeth.

### *Tuberculosis*

Two sanatoria, under an officer of specialist rank, are open to receive tuberculous patients. There are also out-patient clinics in three towns, and further clinics are expected to be opened shortly. A rehabilitation centre functions at the main sanatorium, and it is hoped to extend it to meet the demand for occupational training.

### *Ear, Nose and Throat Clinics*

Special clinics are held at Nicosia, Limassol, Larnaca and Famagusta hospitals.

### *Radiological Department*

A deep X-Ray apparatus was installed in 1949. Sufferers from malignant disease can now receive deep X-Ray or radium therapy without having to go abroad.

### *Mobile Health Unit*

A specially constructed unit, with the amenities of a first-class surgery, has begun to function in 25 villages of the Paphos district.

### *Mental Hospital*

The latest therapeutic measures have been introduced, including shock treatment by electric or medicinal means, prefrontal leucotomy, and occupational therapy.

### *Prevention of Disease*

Inoculations against typhoid fever and diphtheria and vaccinations against smallpox are carried out by the Medical Department. Inoculations against yellow fever, plague and cholera are also given for the convenience of travellers.

### *Anti-Malarial Work*

During the whole year only nine adult anophelines and 34 larvae were discovered after systematic search of thousands of shelters and surface units of water. No fresh case of malaria was reported, but 113 chronic cases were treated. Spleen and blood parasite indices were :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Splenic Index</i>		<i>Blood Parasite Index</i>
1944 .. (Prior to eradication)	32.4	..	51.9
1949 ..	5.1	..	0.21

### *Trachoma*

A campaign to eradicate this chronic and serious disease, involving the delicate membranes of the eye, was started some years ago and has met with considerable success.

### *Port Health Work*

Close supervision over both sea and air traffic to prevent the possible entry of disease is exercised by officers of the Medical Department.

### *Child Welfare Centres*

These exist in the principal towns and in some villages. Children are regularly examined and advice is given to mothers on infant feeding and general hygiene. Children are also vaccinated and inoculated against diphtheria and typhoid.

Cyprus has a large number of medical practitioners, particularly in the towns, and only certain isolated parts of the country are removed from immediate medical aid.

### **HOUSING**

People in the towns are becoming increasingly aware of the need for better houses, equipped with an adequate water supply and modern conveniences. In the villages, too, the peasants are anxious to improve their standards of accommodation.

Unfortunately, new building is everywhere hampered by the high costs of construction, by heavy interest charges by the banks on building loans and by the lack of any building societies.

Nevertheless, steady progress continues to be made. In the villages, especially, the new houses are a vast improvement on anything built in the past : they are well laid out and have reasonable sanitary arrangements.

In the towns, where rents are still high, Government is subsidising a number of municipal housing projects. In Nicosia 114 municipal dwellings were completed during the year; they are rented for £2 10s. a month. Similar schemes were undertaken in Limassol, Larnaca and Famagusta.

In the towns the houses of the wealthier classes are usually built of dressed stone and the internal fittings, imported from abroad, are of fair quality. The ornamental iron work, which is a feature of many of these houses, is made in the island and is generally of pleasing design.

The dwellings of the poorer people are of mud brick and plaster. The older houses and many of the new have clay roofs and floors either of mud or tiled with marmara slabs. They are of one to three rooms and families numbering from three to nine persons are found crowded into them. Sanitary arrangements are primitive.

In the villages houses are made of mud bricks which are sometimes plastered. Occasionally the roofs are tiled but usually they are of mud and, if a repair is required, more mud is applied; this goes on until the weight is too much for the beams and rafters and the whole collapses after heavy rains, as happened in December. On the hills local unworked stone is used for house building.

Most houses, both on the plains and on the hills, consist of two to four rooms, and have a yard round which are ranged numerous outbuildings used as stores, stables and kitchens.

## Chapter 8 : Legislation

During 1949 twenty-nine laws were enacted, of which fifteen were new or consolidating laws and the remainder amending laws.

The consolidating laws included the Courts of Justice (Supplementary Provisions) Law, the Moslem Religious Tribunals Law, the Evcaf Law, the Pensions Law, the Exportation of Arms (Prohibition) Law, the Criminal Code (Continuance of Provisions) Law and the Currency Law, matters which had previously been covered under Imperial Orders in Council but which it was considered desirable to enact in the form of laws for inclusion in the forthcoming revised edition of the Cyprus Laws.

Other consolidating laws were the Trade Unions Law, which has effected desirable alterations, in the light of experience, to the Trade Unions and Trade Disputes Law, 1941; and the Aliens and Immigration Law, consolidating and amending the Immigration Laws, 1936 to 1947.

Of the new laws, the Companies (Limited by Guarantee) Law made provision for the formation of companies limited by guarantee and the Irrigation (Private Water) Association Law enabled the formation of associations for the better regulation and use of common waters.

## Chapter 9 : Justice, Police and Prisons

### JUSTICE

The Supreme Court of Cyprus consists of a Chief Justice and two or more Puisne Judges. It has appellate jurisdiction, both civil and criminal, over the decisions of all other courts, and original jurisdiction as a Colonial Court of Admiralty under the Imperial Act of 1890, in matrimonial causes, and in appeals against decisions of the Commissioner for Income Tax. A single Judge exercises the original jurisdiction of the Court ; his decision is subject to review by the full Court. In civil matters where the amount or value in dispute is £300 or over, an appeal lies from the Supreme Court to His Majesty in Council ; but the Supreme Court may also, in its discretion, grant leave to appeal to His Majesty in Council from any other judgment which involves a question of exceptional general or public importance.

There are six Assize Courts, one for each district, with unlimited criminal jurisdiction and power to order compensation up to £300. These Courts are constituted by a Judge of the Supreme Court sitting with a President of a District Court and a District Judge or with two District Judges. This bench of three is nominated by the Chief Justice whenever a sitting is to be held.

The six District Courts consist of a President and such District Judges and Magistrates as the Chief Justice may direct. At present there are three Presidents (each in charge of two District Courts), nine District Judges, and seven Magistrates. The District Courts exercise original civil and criminal jurisdiction, the extent of which varies with the composition of the Bench. In civil matters (other than those within the original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court) a President and one or two District Judges sitting together have unlimited jurisdiction ; a President or a District Judge sitting alone has jurisdiction up to £200 ; and a Magistrate up to £25. In proceedings for the ejectment of a tenant from premises under the Rent Restriction Laws a President or a District Judge sitting alone has jurisdiction to deal with any claim or proceeding, irrespective of the amount involved. The limit of jurisdiction of any President sitting alone may be increased to £500 and of any Magistrate to £50 by order of the Governor.

In criminal matters the jurisdiction of a District Court is exercised by its members sitting singly and is of a summary character. A President has power to try any offence punishable with imprisonment up to three years or with fine up to £100 or with both, and may order compensation up to £100 ; a District Judge has power to try any offence punishable with imprisonment up to one year or with fine up to £100 or with both, and may order compensation up to £50 ; a Magistrate has power to try any offence punishable with imprisonment up to six months or with fine up to £25 or both, and may order compensation up to £25.

The family laws of the various religious communities are expressly saved.

### *Criminal Returns*

In 1949 the number of persons tried at assizes was 339 against 205 in 1948. Fourteen persons were charged with murder, of whom three were convicted, seven were acquitted and one found insane, while in three cases a *nolle prosequi* was entered; 12 persons were tried for manslaughter, of whom nine were convicted; the number of convictions for murder and manslaughter in 1948 was four and nine respectively. Of the three persons sentenced to death in 1949 one was executed and two were reprieved. There were 13 convictions for offences against property with violence to the person compared with four in 1948, while convictions for other offences against property rose from 64 in 1948 to 97 in 1949.

The number of summary convictions was 50,435, compared with 53,572 in 1948, which was a record figure. The principal decrease was in offences against the State and public order (in which offences against the Defence Regulations are included): convictions for offences of that description dropped from 4,554 in 1948 to 3,224 in 1949, mainly owing to a relaxation of the Defence Regulations. Convictions for traffic offences, amounting to 20,590 (against 19,710 in 1948), represented about 41% of the total for the year.

### *Civil Proceedings*

There was a further striking increase in civil litigation during the year due, it is believed, to various adverse economic factors; the number of actions begun in the District Courts went up from 7,932 in 1948 to 11,398 in 1949.

## POLICE

The Cyprus Police Force is an armed body—though weapons are not normally carried—consisting of a Commissioner of Police, two Assistant Commissioners, 35 officers and 1,027 other ranks, mounted and foot. The Commissioner, the Assistant Commissioners and two Cypriot officers are at Police Headquarters, on the staff of which are members of the Criminal Investigation Department and the Special Branch. A Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent of Police is in charge of each of the six Police Divisions.

Each Division is responsible for the maintenance of order, the prevention, investigation and detection of crime, the prosecution of offenders, the registration and supervision of criminals, passport control and the control and registration of aliens.

The Police Training School, which is headed by a Cypriot commissioned officer, provides instruction for recruits and refresher courses for serving constables and N.C.O.s. A high standard of education and physical fitness is demanded of young men seeking to join the Force and a knowledge of English is essential.

Four hundred and thirty-nine members of the Force are qualified in first aid, and regular instructional classes are held. The Force forms a Corps of the St. John Ambulance Brigade Overseas and the Commissioner of Police is in charge of the Cyprus District of the Brigade. Classes in life-saving are held regularly and 40 Bronze Medals, 16 first Bronze Bars, eleven second Bronze Bars and four Instructors' Certificates were awarded during the year by the Royal Life Saving Society.

The Traffic Branch, formed in 1946 to cope with the rapid increase in motor traffic, had a busy year checking and controlling vehicles and investigating accidents. The Cyprus Highway Code in English, Greek and Turkish was issued free to new drivers. An intensive campaign to reduce accidents culminated in a Road Safety Week, during which every available means of propaganda—the press, films, radio, talks in schools, leaflets and pamphlets—were used.

A Police Fire Brigade, consisting of twelve men, is maintained at Nicosia, where the Police Band, numbering 30 players, is also stationed.

#### PRISONS

The Cyprus Prison Service carried out two outstanding experiments in 1949. The first was the establishment of a tented camp—a "prison without bars"—at Panagra, near Myrtou. This camp, accommodating 70 convicts, was open from April until October and the men were engaged on cutting back clay banks to prevent landslides on to a main road. Welfare facilities consisted of sea bathing, football and a monthly film show, and discipline was excellent: although the staff was very small and the camp was wide open, only two men escaped during the whole six months. It is hoped to arrange similar camps in future years.

The second experiment was the accommodation of young prisoners at the Government Stock Farm at Athalassa, five miles from Nicosia. Agricultural training is the keynote of this scheme of rehabilitation but general education is also given; lectures on farming subjects are arranged at week-ends.

Alterations in the Central Prison at Nicosia were completed during the year. Cells have been enlarged and provided with electric light and a water-borne sanitation system has been installed. Educational classes are held on five nights a week and a number of illiterates have been taught to read and write. Five convicts sat for London Chamber of Commerce examinations, four are taking correspondence courses and one is studying for the Government's English Distinction examination.

Among the trades taught in prison are tailoring, shoe repairing and shoe making, carpentry, blacksmithing, and, to a lesser extent, signwriting, bookbinding and cookery.

Wages are paid to all convicts whose work and conduct is satisfactory after they have served six months in prison. There is a weekly issue of cigarettes.

There are eight football and volley ball teams and physical training and athletics are encouraged. Regular cinema shows are given and there are facilities for listening to broadcasts.

The health of the prisoners remained excellent during the year and most of them gained in weight. Discipline was very good.

The prison farm, which provides work for a large number of convicts, had an exceptionally good year, yields being outstanding.

The After-care Committee met regularly.

The daily average number of men and women detained in all prisons in 1949 was 665 compared with 562 in 1948.

## Chapter 10 : Public Utilities & Public Works

### BROADCASTING

Although Cyprus has no broadcasting system of its own, there is an Army transmitter, No. 4 Forces Broadcasting Station, near Nicosia, which broadcasts programmes for the forces.

This station puts out a daily transmission in Greek or Turkish which is widely listened to all over the island.

Before the F.B.S. began operations in 1948 the number of wireless receiving licences totalled between 6,000 and 7,000. In 1949 more than 11,000 licences were issued.

In addition to the F.B.S., there is a station at Limassol which broadcasts exclusively to the Arab world.

### WATER SUPPLY AND IRRIGATION

1949 was a year of record achievement by the Water Supply and Irrigation Department. Irrigation works continued to be carried out at the pace set by the post-war development plan ; more work was done on village water supplies than in any previous year, in spite of a shortage of pipes ; and the drilling of bore-holes proceeded at a rate 50% faster than in 1948, which was itself a record year.

Small irrigation schemes in the hills, consisting of water source, stone-lined channels, and sometimes a masonry irrigation tank, were in great demand by landowners and the Water Department added many more works of this type to those carried out in past years. Within the Kyperounda village area, for instance, there are now no fewer than 30 such irrigation schemes. Larger works, mainly

for spring and winter irrigation, were completed or are in progress elsewhere, notably in Paphos where improvements are being made to the irrigation system of the former chiftliks of Kouklia, Akhelia and Potima which have been acquired by Government. Other major schemes were weirs and channels at Kotchati, Kivisil, Koloni, Limnitis and Dhierona, an earth dam at Kanli Keuy, concrete channels at Karavas and major repairs at Kouklia reservoir, Famagusta. In all 91 irrigation schemes were completed in 1949 and at the end of the year a further 29 were in hand. The area commanded by irrigation works completed or in hand in 1949 was about 1,500 acres; total expenditure on irrigation was £111,000.

Particularly good progress was made in drilling for water and all arrears in the subsidised drilling programme were overtaken. During the year 181 bore-holes, totalling 33,000 feet of drilling, produced, on test, quantities of water amounting to 13,500,000 gallons a day, enough to irrigate 2,300 acres in summer if the bore-holes are regularly pumped at only half the test rate.

Although progress on village water supplies again suffered because of the shortage of pipes, more were laid than in any previous year. A total of 32 villages received new supplies and work on an additional 24 schemes was in progress at the end of the year. Plans and estimates have been prepared for 60 more villages but work on these cannot proceed until the arrival of some of the 2,800 tons of pipes still on order.

A new scheme for a town water supply for Nicosia has been prepared, the estimated cost being £250,000. A project of similar magnitude for Limassol and improvements to the Famagusta town supply are under study.

Irrigation works are now very considerably assisted by the colony's loan funds and to a lesser extent by Colonial Development and Welfare grants. Village contributions are from one-fifth to one-half of the total cost and may be provided in cash, in free labour, or by Government loans at low rates of interest. For domestic water supplies in villages the beneficiaries contribute half the cost, a quarter comes from Government loan funds and a quarter from Colonial Development and Welfare grants.

#### ELECTRICITY

Work proceeded during the year on the first stage of the island-wide electricity grid scheme.

After examination by the consulting engineers of possible sites near Larnaca, it was decided to build the central generating station at Dhekelia, about eight miles north-east of the town. Tenders have been called for and it is hoped that building will commence in May, 1950, and be completed by October, 1951.

The first stage of the scheme provides for a central ring main from which bulk supplies can be made available to Larnaca, Limassol, Trimiklini, Amiandos, Lefka, Morphou and Nicosia. Provision has also been made for a circuit to supply Famagusta, with subsequent extension to Nicosia, via Lefkoniko and Kythrea, to form an eastern ring main.

The grid scheme will be of especial benefit to the rural areas as the provision of cheap electricity for pumping should lead to an extension of irrigation ; this should bring about a marked expansion of agricultural production. The development of secondary industries should also be stimulated.

#### TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE SERVICES

Cable & Wireless Ltd. maintain telegraph cables between Larnaca and Alexandria and Larnaca and Haifa. There are land telegraphs between the six principal towns of the island and 15 big villages. During the summer season most of the summer resorts are also connected.

A public telephone service is maintained by the same company ; it serves the six towns and 115 villages. Automatic telephone exchanges will shortly be installed in three towns.

#### PUBLIC WORKS

The 1949 programme of public works cost approximately £675,000. The maintenance of main roads, bridges and Government buildings accounted for a large proportion of that sum, but work on the following major items was also completed : the reconstruction and asphalting of the Larnaca by-pass connecting the roads to Famagusta and Nicosia, the construction of a new patients' block at the Leper Farm, the erection of an 11,000 volts overhead power line to supply Kyperrouna Sanatorium, the building and furnishing of 18 houses for Government officers and of six houses for the staff of the Central Electrification Scheme, and improvements and alterations to the Central Prison. Considerable improvements were also carried out at the hospitals at Nicosia, Larnaca and Famagusta.

Under the Development Programme the following new buildings were erected : staff quarters at Kyperrouna Sanatorium, stud stables at Larnaca, a police station at Arkhimandrita, and a customs house and quarters at Zyggi ; the Phassouri-Limassol road was asphalted.

A scheme to provide new office accommodation for the Education, Medical and Supplies Departments near the Secretariat was also put in hand.

The erection of workers' houses by municipalities with the aid of Government loans and subsidies progressed during the year. In Nicosia, Larnaca and Limassol all the houses scheduled in the original schemes have been completed. In Famagusta about 50% of the houses were finished. A new scheme has been drawn up for Limassol.

## Chapter 11: Communications

### AIR SERVICES

When new terminal buildings were opened at Nicosia Airport in May, 1949, the hope was expressed that Cyprus might become one of the main aerial crossroads of the Middle East. That hope, it seems, is on the way to realisation.

During 1949 civil aircraft arrived and departed at the rate of eighty a week. They carried close on 30,000 passengers—twice as many as in 1948—and nearly a million and a half kilograms of baggage, mail and freight.

	<i>Inward</i>	<i>Outward</i>
Scheduled services .. ..	1,104	1,103
Non-scheduled services .. ..	971	966
Total .. ..	<u>2,075</u>	<u>2,069</u>

	<i>Embarked</i>	<i>Disembarked</i>	<i>Transit</i>
Passengers ..	9,560	9,162	10,392
Passenger baggage ..	234,359 kgs.	205,074 kgs.	291,576 kgs.
Mail ..	31,188 ,,	33,152 ,,	19,452 ,,
Freight ..	226,239 ,,	142,250 ,,	291,044 ,,

The new airport buildings are among the finest in the Middle East. Facilities include a waiting room and buffet, customs, immigration and health controls—so arranged that in-coming and out-going passengers are kept entirely separate—first-class restaurant and modern offices for the airport management and airline agents.

The buildings have proved entirely satisfactory and the handling facilities and the standard of comfort offered to passengers are now equal to, if not better than, those available at any other airport in surrounding countries.

The civil airport occupies a self-contained site at Nicosia aerodrome which is used jointly with the Royal Air Force. The airport is managed on Government's behalf by Cyprus Airways, Ltd. Signal facilities for civil aviation to the standards required by the International Civil Aviation Organisation are maintained by Cable and Wireless Ltd.

Six air lines maintain regular services between Cyprus and other countries. These are :—

Cyprus Airways.

British Overseas Airways Corporation.

Misr Airlines (Egyptian).

Middle East Airlines (Lebanese).

Hellenic Airlines (Greek).

Turkish State Airlines.

Nicosia—Cairo—Nicosia  
Nicosia—Athens—Istanbul  
Nicosia—Athens—Rome  
Nicosia—Beirut—Nicosia  
Nicosia—Lydda—Nicosia  
Nicosia—Haifa—Nicosia—  
London—Tripoli—Nicosia—  
Teheran.  
Cairo—Nicosia—Cairo  
Cairo—Nicosia—Istanbul.  
Beirut—Nicosia—Beirut.  
Prestwick—London—Paris—  
Athens—Nicosia—Lydda.  
Istanbul—Ankara—Nicosia—  
Beirut.

In addition to these, charter companies operate a number of flights to Australia, South Africa and other destinations and maintain regular services between Cyprus and the Persian Gulf.

#### POSTS

The Cyprus postal authorities dealt with nearly ten million items during 1949.

There are 15 main post offices and 666 postal agencies. Motor mail services are run daily, sometimes twice daily, between the big towns; there are branch services to the villages either by motor, bicycle or animal.

#### RAILWAYS

The Cyprus Government's narrow-gauge railway carried 164,000 passengers and 78,000 tons of goods during the year. A popular innovation in the summer months was the running of a Sunday special, the "Blue Train," taking people from Nicosia to Famagusta for a day by the sea.

The railway runs from Famagusta through Nicosia and Morphou to Kalokhorio, a distance of 71 miles.

Only the section from Famagusta to Nicosia is open to regular passenger traffic. The section between Nicosia and Kalokhorio is worked by goods trains which carry chrome ore from the mines and take heavy machinery and supplies to the Cyprus Mines Corporation.

Passenger travel by rail between Nicosia and Famagusta is slower, although cheaper, than by road, but as the railway follows a different route it serves a good many people to whom buses are not easily accessible.

## SHIPPING

1,136 steamships and 466 sailing vessels engaged in foreign trade called at Cyprus ports in 1949, compared with 1,127 and 649 in the previous year.

The regular ten-day mail service was maintained between Egypt, the Lebanon and Cyprus by a subsidised steamer (*s.s. Fouadieh*) of the Khedivial Mail Line.

General cargo steamers of the Conference Lines arrived at approximately half-monthly intervals from British ports. Some of these vessels have accommodation for a few passengers; the voyage takes between 12 and 14 days.

Cargo ships of many nationalities—Norwegian, Danish, Dutch, Swedish, Italian, Greek, Israeli, Turkish, Spanish, Yugoslav, Egyptian and American—some of them carrying passengers, called at varying intervals.

Seventeen tankers arrived at Larnaca and discharged 13,756 tons of benzine, 13,669 tons of kerosene, 17,377 tons of gas oil and 5,507 tons of fuel oil.

Approximately 244,710 gross tons of cargo were imported and 564,020 gross tons exported during the year; 11,000 passengers arrived and 13,100 departed. About 4,000 summer visitors came by sea.

## ROADS AND VEHICLES

Few territories of comparable size and population can boast a road system equal to that of Cyprus. The main highways—more than 700 miles of which are asphalted—provide all-weather communications between the towns and many of the bigger villages. A secondary system of 1,700 miles of subsidiary roads, with few exceptions open all the year round, connects almost all the smaller villages.

There are frequent bus and taxi services between the main centres of population and most villages are linked by bus with the towns. Motoring conditions are good, although the roads are narrow by English standards, and care is required on minor roads. Touring conditions are agreeable throughout the year except at high summer on the plains; the mountain roads command some of the most magnificent scenery in the Mediterranean.

On December 31st, 1949, there were registered 9,874 motor vehicles and 2,099 motor cycles. There are also some 45,000 bicycles.

To meet the phenomenal increase in traffic—it has more than doubled in the past ten years—the Public Works Department continued its campaign of road improvements.

## Chapter 12: Archaeological Activities

### EXCAVATIONS AND DISCOVERIES

During 1949 there were no excavations on Neolithic sites but the important series of skulls of this period from Khirokitia were examined by Dr. J. Lawrence Angel, of Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia. Progress was made at Oxford with the printing of the report by Mr. P. Dikaios, Curator of the Cyprus Museum, on the excavations carried out by the Department of Antiquities on that site.

Early Bronze Age tombs came to light during building operations at Nicosia and Kalavasos, but all pre-historic discoveries were overshadowed by the further excavations in the Late Bronze Age city site at Engomi. Now a joint enterprise of the French Mission under Dr. C. F. A. Schaeffer and the Department of Antiquities, these excavations have acquired increased importance following the identification of the site as the capital of the Kingdom of Alasia, which enjoyed diplomatic relations with Egypt and the Hittite Empire in the 15th and 14th centuries B.C. This identification was proposed by M. René Dussaud in a communication to the *Academie des Inscriptions et Belle Lettres*. In the spring Mr. Dikaios resumed the clearance of the important building where the bronze statue of a deity (perhaps the Bronze Age ancestor of Apollo Alasiotas) had been found in 1948. Well constructed and laid out not later than the 13th century B.C., the building, after damage by fire and earthquake and much rearrangement, remained in use until the 11th century, when the part where the statue was found was used as a sanctuary. Dr. Schaeffer, resuming his excavations in the autumn, by long trenches in the centre of the site established the grid street plan of the city and discovered on one frontage the facade of the largest and best-preserved building yet found, the excavation of which remains to be completed. He also discovered a number of intact tombs, one of them with valuable vases and gold objects.

A search for somewhat later settlement sites, conducted by Miss J. du Plat Taylor, on behalf of the Department and with the support of the Ashmolean Museum, led to the discovery near Myrtou of a building of excellent construction with associated pottery ranging in date from the Mycenaean Age down to about 800 B.C. Further excavations on this site are planned for 1950.

By chance discoveries of archaic sculpture two new sanctuary sites were located at Kouklia (Paphos) and Kokkina.

Mr. T. Bruce Mitford, in association with the Department, examined the cave shrine in Kaphizin hill, near Nicosia, where bowls inscribed with syllabic and alphabetic dedications had been found. The cave was discovered to be much disturbed but many new inscribed fragments were found, dating from the 3rd century B.C.

On the acropolis of Curium the Pennsylvania University Museum Expedition, under the direction of Mr. B. H. Hill, completed the excavation of the large bath complex of the 4th century A.D., including a series of subterranean rock-cut cisterns. The adjoining Roman Theatre was cleared by Mr. De C. Fales, Jnr. It had a vaulted passage encircling the auditorium, round the upper part of which are traces of a colonnade, and where the masonry is preserved it is of fine quality. At the Apollo Sanctuary, west of the acropolis, excavations by Mr. G. McFadden on the eastern perimeter led to the discovery of a small Roman bath in a good state of preservation just outside the peribolos wall. The floor of one of the hypocaust rooms was found almost intact and evidence was recovered of the extension of the heating system in a dado round the walls, which was closed by a heavy stone moulding.

The partial excavation of a large basilican church in the town site on Cape Drepanum has added to the number of Early Christian monuments in the island, which remains unduly small. Conducted by the Department of Antiquities, the excavations revealed a three-aisled church with three apses, an annex to the north—perhaps a baptistery—and an atrium to the west. The nave had a mosaic pavement, which is preserved only at the east end and indicates a date in the late 6th century.

In Famagusta further investigation and clearance work directed by the Antiquities Officer, Mr. Th. Mogabgab, included the removal of Venetian fills in the Citadel ramparts, which threw new light on the disposition of the Frankish Castle. In Nicosia discoveries in the course of building operations included parts of a Venetian aqueduct and a Frankish fortification outside the Paphos Gate, probably the citadel built by King Peter II.

#### MUSEUMS

In the Cyprus Museum new cases were provided in the pottery gallery and for the jewelry collection, and turnstiles were installed at the entrance. Important purchases were an inscribed cylinder seal said to come from Engomi, two Attic black-figure vases, a limestone head of a youth of the Hellenistic period and two hoards of silver coins. Of these hoards one consisted of 58 Ptolemaic staters and the other, found at Kalopanayiotis, was a miscellaneous collection of 581 Turkish, Venetian, Polish and Spanish coins and other objects of the 17th century. A notable acquisition was a replica in bronze, made in the British Museum, of the Chatsworth head of Apollo, now known to have been found at Tamassus. A temporary exhibition of casts of the figure sculptures found at St. Sophia, Nicosia, in 1948 was arranged in the Museum.

At Limassol Castle extensive improvements were carried out designed to make it suitable for use as a museum for Limassol district. A new floor, ceiling and staircases were provided in the part of the building previously used as a prison and electric light was installed.

At Famagusta a house, much of which is of medieval date, was purchased with a view to preservation and adaptation for use as a local museum.

#### ANCIENT MONUMENTS

Conservation work was undertaken by the Antiquities Department at various monuments in Nicosia, including St. Sophia (largely with Evcaf funds), the Bedestan and Ayios Ioannis church, where the cost of repairing the roof and walls was shared with the Church Committee. At Famagusta the consolidation of the church of St. Anne continued and the repair of damage caused to the fortifications while in military occupation during the war was nearly completed. At Lythrangomi the repair of the Kanakaria church, begun in 1941, was resumed on behalf of the Archbishopric. In Paphos work was carried out at the Fort, the Frankish Baths, the tombs of the Kings and Ayios Neophyto Monastery.

At St. Hilarion Castle, as part of the programme of developing the principal monuments of Kyrenia neighbourhood as tourist attractions, numerous improvements were carried out, giving access to various sections not previously visited, increasing the water supply and providing barriers and railings at dangerous points. At Bellapais, under the same programme, three properties to the east of the Abbey were acquired with Colonial Development and Welfare funds to afford a passage for visitors round the monument and to free it from encroachment. The benefit resulting from the asphalting of the roads to these two monuments in 1948 is shown by the following figures for visitors :—

		1947	1949
Bellapais Abbey	.. ..	7,280	11,070
St. Hilarion Castle	.. ..	7,147	10,318

Following a visit in November by Lord Wakehurst, Prior of the Order of St. John, to Kolossi Castle, in which the Order owns a small share, an offer was received from the Order to contribute £1,500 towards the repair and improvement of the Castle. The offer was accepted and work will start in 1950.

#### CONTROL OF BUILDING

To assist the Commissioner of Famagusta and the Director of Antiquities in dealing with applications for permission to erect buildings in the controlled area within the walls, a committee was appointed consisting of the Mayor, the Turkish Municipal Councillors and one other representative of the Turkish community. A number of useful meetings were held. To prevent sub-division and building development, a central open space opposite the Twin churches of the Temple and the Hospital, was purchased, together with the house referred to above as the future home of the local museum. A second property separating two nearby churches was also acquired for similar reasons. In all some £5,000 was spent on such acquisitions.

## PART III

### Chapter 1: Geography and Climate

CYPRUS is an island in the eastern Mediterranean, lying 240 miles north of Egypt, 60 miles west of the Lebanon, and 40 miles south of Turkey. Its area is 3,584 square miles, less than half that of Wales. The greatest length from east to west is 140 miles and from north to south 60 miles. The coastline is indented and rocky, but interspersed are long, sandy beaches. The north coast is bordered by a steep, narrow belt of limestone mountains, rising to more than 3,000 feet, while in the south-west an extensive mountain massif, covered with pine, dwarf oak, cypress and cedar, culminates in the 6,400-feet peak of Mt. Olympus (Troodos). Between these ranges lies a broad, fertile plain broken by bare limestone escarpments and groves of olive.

The climate of Cyprus is healthy. In summer it is hot and dry on the plains, damp and hot on the seashore, and on the hills inland equable and bracing. The winter is mild and invigorating, and on the plains and coastal belt the temperature rarely falls below freezing-point. The rainy and cool season is from October to March. On both plain and hill sunshine is usual, except during the occasional wet period, which rarely lasts beyond a week.

### Chapter 2 : History

Recent research has carried the history of Cyprus back to the early Neolithic Age, circa 4000 B.C., when a primitive people, with weapons and vessels of stone, dwelt in river-side settlements of circular huts, living on the produce of the land they farmed. Before metal was introduced pottery, frequently adorned with painted decoration of great individuality, was in general use. The adoption of bronze (3000–2500 B.C.) coincided with the appearance of plain red pottery, suggestive of Anatolian origin; rock-cut tombs of the period have yielded large quantities of this. It may well be that immigrants from Anatolia first exploited the island's copper resources.

In the Late Bronze Age (1600–1050 B.C.) the island prospered as a place of commercial and cultural interchange between East and West. Under the name Alasia it is recorded among the tributaries of Egypt from the time of Thotmes III, but it remained open to traders and settlers from the Mycenaean Empire. On the disruption of that Empire, Achaean colonists established themselves in settlements (founded, according to legend, by heroes returning from the Trojan war) bringing with them their Greek language and religion, perhaps

by way of the coast of Asia Minor. In the late eighth century B.C. the island was divided into a series of independent kingdoms, tributaries of the Assyrian Empire. It was conquered by the Egyptians in the sixth century B.C. and held until 525 B.C. when it became absorbed into the Persian Empire. In 500 B.C. a revolt to assist the Greeks of the mainland in their struggle against Persia failed but Evagoras, a native-born king, succeeded in raising Cyprus to a position of virtual independence. Evagoras governed with courage, wisdom and success for 37 years, pursuing his task by entirely peaceful means. On his death the island again fell into the hands of Persia, and subsequently became a part of the Empire of Alexander the Great. At the division of the Empire, Cyprus passed to Egypt, became a Roman province in 58 B.C. and on the partition of the Roman Empire fell under the rule of the Byzantine Emperor. For 300 years from the middle of the seventh century Cyprus, in the words of a contemporary English visitor, lay "betwixt Greeks and Saracenes" ravaged by one Arab raid after another. In 963 Nicephorus II Phocas re-established Byzantine rule, which endured for another 200 years.

In A.D. 1184 the Governor of Cyprus, Isaac Comnenos, revolted and maintained his independence until 1191 when his rule was brought to an end by Richard Coeur de Lion who was then on his way eastward to take part in the Third Crusade. Richard sold the island to the Knights Templar, who found themselves unable to maintain their new and heavy burden which, at Richard's wish, was acquired by Guy de Lusignan, the titular King of Jerusalem. Thereafter the Lusignan dynasty ruled the island until 1489, although from 1373 to 1464 the Genoese Republic held Famagusta and exercised suzerainty over a part of the kingdom. The 300 years during which it was ruled by the kings and queens of the House of Lusignan were the most brilliant epoch in the varied history of Cyprus. In every aspect of medieval civilisation the little kingdom played a distinguished part, investing it with an importance among the nations of Europe wholly out of proportion to its small size and population. Its constitution was the model of that of the medieval feudal state; its laws, as embodied in the "Assizes of Jerusalem," a pattern of medieval jurisprudence. In the abbey of Bellapais, in the cathedrals of Nicosia and Famagusta, and in the castles of St. Hilarion, Buffavento, and Kantara, it could boast rare and beautiful examples of medieval architecture. The rich merchants of Famagusta were wont, we are told, to give to their daughters, on their marriage, jewels more precious "*que toutes les parures de la reine de France.*"

The fall of Acre in 1291 left Cyprus the furthest outpost of Christendom in the Levant. Profiting by the influx of the Franks driven from the mainland and prospering by the diversion of the Syrian trade to its ports, Cyprus was able briefly to carry the struggle back into enemy territory. Under Peter I, Alexandria was captured, and Adalia and Korykos on the Turkish coast were occupied. But the

Black Death and later plagues, the Genoese invasion of 1373, and devastating Mameluke raids, culminating in the rout of the Cypriot forces and the capture of King Janus in 1426, marked stages in a progressive decline, which laid the island open to the intrigues of western powers and to the threat of a Turkish invasion.

In 1489 Cyprus fell to the Republic of Venice, which held it until it was won by the Turks in 1571, in the sultanate of Selim II. The Government of Venice was little more than a military occupation and, as no measures for its proper maintenance were taken, the prosperity of the island did not recover, though the population increased to some 200,000.

The Turkish conquest was welcomed by many of the Cypriot peasantry who had suffered from the neglect and tyranny of Venice. Indeed, under the Turkish regime serfdom disappeared, the Orthodox Archbishopric was restored after having been in abeyance since about 1275, and the Christian population was granted a large measure of autonomy. The power and authority which passed into the Archbishop's hands were particularly significant. The original cause which brought the Orthodox prelates out of their previous obscurity was the desire of the central government in Constantinople to devise some check upon its extortionate and not always submissive local officers; but as time went on the church acquired so much influence that the Turks became alarmed. In 1821, the archbishop, bishops, and leading personages of the Orthodox community were arrested and executed on the charge of conspiring with the insurgents in Greece, then struggling for their independence.

In 1878 the island passed under the administration of Great Britain, although nominally it was still Ottoman territory, and its inhabitants Ottoman subjects; on the outbreak of war with Turkey in 1914, it was annexed to the British Crown. The annexation was formally recognised by Turkey under the Treaty of Lausanne, and in 1925 Cyprus became a Crown Colony.

The British occupation of Cyprus revealed a country which had suffered grievously from centuries of exploitation and neglect. The forests had become devastated by unrestricted felling, firing and grazing; the soil had been eroded, the rivers had dried up; roads were almost non-existent; the harbours were unsuitable for trading; medical services were unknown; and there was no regulated educational system. The following paragraphs are designed to give a brief account of the steps taken to remedy these defects, and of the results achieved.

What remains of the once extensive and beautiful forests of Cyprus after the ravages of shipbuilders, the reckless felling for fuel and timber, and the destruction wrought by fires and goat grazing, the Forest Department—the oldest in the Colonial Empire—has undertaken to preserve and develop. The progress made is truly remarkable; some 337 miles of forest roads, opening up the whole forest area, have been constructed; permanent stations in the forests

have been erected for the staff who previously had to sleep in villages or under canvas ; there are now three major forest station headquarters with up-to-date buildings, and 171 rest houses, most of which are linked by a 650-mile line telephone system. All the main mountain tops are manned by fire guards equipped with precision instruments to locate the position of a fire. Considerable reafforestation has been carried out and the programme continues to make steady progress. About 65,000 donums (21,500 acres) of burnt or cut forest have been reafforested ; 13,000 donums (4,300 acres) planted, and nearly 50 miles of road and railside plantations made. Simultaneously, steps have been taken for the gradual elimination of goats from the forests by means of cash payments ; 460 square miles of forest lands have already been freed in this way.

The progress in agriculture has been no less remarkable. Primitive practices are gradually giving way to more scientific methods. Chemical fertilisers are now used extensively and modern tractors and equipment, including combine harvesters and threshers, can be seen in use alongside the nail plough, the sickle and the threshing board of biblical days. Particular attention is given by the Department of Agriculture to the use of improved livestock and crop varieties, and the grading and inspection of produce prior to export.

Much is being done to stimulate interest in good land use practices and a recently formed Soil Conservation Service, equipped with earth-moving machinery, provides advice and aid.

An important contribution towards agricultural progress is being made by the Water Supply and Irrigation Department which, by exploiting minor waters, is enabling many thousands of acres of dry land to be irrigated for varying periods of the year. Piped water supplies have been brought to hundreds of villages.

An Agricultural Bank and co-operative credit societies, associated with a Co-operative Central Bank, help farmers to procure loans on reasonable terms ; this has done much to diminish the curse of rural indebtedness. The co-operative movement has enabled farmers, to obtain farming requisites, such as fertilisers, sulphur and potato seed, at very reasonable rates and has enabled the bulk marketing of produce such as carobs. A Supplies and Marketing Department, established during the war, continues to help cereal growers by the purchase of cereals for bread grain and for export. In 1949 it undertook the large-scale purchase and marketing of vine products when a crisis arose due to the loss of export markets.

The Department of Agriculture has done much to improve the quality of the country's livestock, especially of equines, and a useful export market has been developed. Its Veterinary Service has succeeded in eliminating or effectively controlling many animal pests and diseases which formerly took a high toll.

All these things would, however, have been of little value to farmers if steps had not been taken at the same time to provide proper roads connecting the villages with the main towns. The magnitude of this task can be appreciated when it is realised that only one road passable for carriage traffic, that connecting Nicosia with Larnaca, existed in 1878. The remaining roads were tracks, fit only for mule and camel traffic. There are now more than 700 miles of asphalt roads connecting all the principal towns and villages and about 1,700 miles of secondary roads.

Much important and costly work has been performed in improving the harbours of the island and in providing adequate export facilities.

Good progress has also been made in social welfare. From a pestilential spot, as the island was stated to be in former days, it has been transformed into as healthy and pleasant a place as may be found in the Mediterranean.

Malaria, which was one of the chief obstacles to the progress of the rural areas, has (except for a few chronic cases) been completely wiped out; modern hospitals and other institutions have been established in the towns, and medical and sanitary services provided in the rural areas.

Great enthusiasm for education, both elementary and secondary, has been the natural corollary of improved material conditions; at the moment there are more than 700 elementary schools catering for 60,000 children and more than 40 secondary schools with a total attendance of 10,000—and these numbers are steadily rising.

Labour conditions have been improved out of all recognition through the encouragement of trade unions and the enactment of legislation providing for the regulation of hours of employment, minimum wages, inquiry into industrial disputes and payment of compensation for accidents.

## Chapter 3 : Administration

After the occupation of Cyprus by Great Britain a change was made in the system of government by the establishment in 1882 of a constitution based on the electoral principle. Government previously had been despotic, and, although the mass of the people were illiterate and there was no tradition of self-government, the new constitution created, besides an Executive Council to advise the High Commissioner, a Legislative Council under the presidency of the High Commissioner. This consisted of 6 official non-elected members and 12 elected members, 3 of whom were elected by the Turkish inhabitants and 9 by the non-Turkish. In 1925, when the island became a Crown Colony, the Legislative Council was enlarged by the addition of 3 officially nominated members and 3 elected members.

After the disturbances of 1931 arising out of the movement for union with Greece, the Government was reconstituted without a Legislative Council, and the legislative authority, subject to the power of His Majesty to disallow local legislation or to legislate for the Colony by Order in Council, was entrusted to the Governor. The Executive Council was retained. The function of the Council, which at present includes 4 official members and 2 non-official members (one of whom is a Turk) appointed by the Governor, is to advise the Governor on new legislation, on the exercise of the powers reposed in the Governor in Council under existing laws, and on major policy.

The affairs of the villages, which number 633 (excluding the 10 rural municipalities), are managed by Village Commissions appointed by the Governor. Each Village Commission consists of a Mukhtar (headman), who acts as president, and 4 Azas (elders). In villages with a mixed population of Greeks and Turks a separate Commission is appointed for each community when it numbers 30 or more.

The work of the Mukhtar, with the advice and assistance of the Azas, is generally to keep the peace and, as the local representative of the Government, to assist in the work of administration; to register births and deaths; to issue certificates of ownership of animals; to conduct sales of immovable property in execution of judgment or mortgage debts; to supervise rural constables (appointed for the protection of crops and animals); to estimate, or appoint arbitrators to estimate, damage or destruction to agricultural property for the purpose of assessing compensation; to supervise and manage the schools in the village subject to the directions of the Education Department, and to assess the ability of the inhabitants of the village to contribute towards them. (The salaries of the teachers are paid by the Education Department.)

In those villages (the majority) to which the Public Health (Villages) Laws have been applied, Village Commissions have the additional task of authorizing numerous works affecting public health, such as the erection of markets and slaughter-houses; the lighting, cleaning and watering of streets; the regulation of any trade or business injurious to public health; the protection of water supplies from contamination; and the imposition of fees and rates for carrying out such works.

There are 11 summer resorts and their general administration, which is closely connected with the development of the tourist trade, is entrusted to separate Development Boards under the chairmanship of the Commissioner of the District. Each Development Board has powers similar to, but more extensive than, those of a Village Commission under the Public Health (Villages) Laws.

During the year public comment was invited upon a Bill in which it is proposed progressively to replace the local authorities in summer resorts and the larger villages by bodies possessed of powers and duties approximating to those of municipal corporations without the heavy overhead expenses attendant upon the latter. The new local authorities would include both officials and elected representatives.

Sixteen Municipal Corporations have been established. Each has a Municipal Council composed of a Mayor with from 6 to 12 Councillors elected by a general vote of the male population over the age of 21. The proportion of Greek to Turkish Councillors is, as far as possible, the same as the proportion of Greek to Turkish inhabitants in the municipality. In addition to the Municipal Councils, the towns have in each quarter a Village Commission with powers and duties similar to those of a Village Commission in a village to which the Public Health (Villages) Laws have not been applied.

Municipal Councils have a status roughly comparable with that of Municipal Councils in the United Kingdom. They do not, however, make any contribution to the maintenance of the police. Generally speaking, they are responsible for conservancy and the preservation of public health and safety within the municipal limits. They contribute towards the cost of maintenance of public hospitals and of infant welfare centres. They have powers to borrow money for municipal works, to acquire land compulsorily for public utility purposes, to make by-laws, to undertake or to assist charitable or educational schemes, and to establish markets and parks or other places of recreation. The more important of the powers of Municipal Councils are exercised subject to the approval of the Governor or of the Governor in Council.

In 5 of the 6 district towns there is a resident District Commissioner who is the local representative of Government, responsible for the general supervision of the work of municipalities and villages, and for assisting and advising Village Commissions and Municipal Councils.

Besides the Village Commissions, Boards and Councils mentioned above, each District has a District Council with the Commissioner of the District as chairman, and, as members, the Sheri (Moslem Sacred Law) Judge, a person to represent the Greek community and 6 other persons appointed by the Governor. These District Councils are advisory bodies consulted by the Commissioners on various administrative questions, especially those affecting the rural population of their districts.

#### PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

The Cyprus Government seeks by every means in its power to keep the public informed of its actions and of the reasons for them.

During 1949 the Public Information Office released more than 1,900 news items to the press, nearly twice as many as in the previous year. Each of these items was published in an average of five newspapers, the aggregate number of items printed being close on 10,000, or thirty every working day. Announcements of major importance were also broadcast from the Forces Broadcasting Station near Nicosia.

Press conferences and press visits averaged one every two weeks ; the subjects ranged from the revaluation of sterling to the excavations at Engomi.

Answers were given to a large number of questionnaires submitted by newspapers ; more than a thousand people called at the Public Information Office on various matters.

The Public Information Office, in addition to handling all Government advertising, produces two magazines : the *Cyprus Review*, a pictorial monthly in English and Greek, and the *Countryman*, which is published in English, Greek and Turkish on behalf of the Department of Agriculture.

Two pamphlets—"Fifty Facts about Cyprus" and "Cyprus Welcomes You"—were prepared for free distribution at the Colonial Exhibition in London. The Public Information Officer also drafted the colony's annual report and in consultation with the Director of Antiquities compiled the Cyprus Calendar.

To help spread knowledge of Cyprus abroad, aid was given to a film unit which shot two documentaries on life in the island ; a BBC feature, broadcast four times and heard throughout the world, was built up largely on material provided by the P.I.O. Newspaper stories about Cyprus appeared in cities as far apart as Khartoum and Moscow and valuable publicity for the island resulted from the visit of three British press representatives who covered the opening of the new terminal buildings at Nicosia airport, and from a brief stay in the island made by 28 influential Americans travelling under the auspices of the radio programme called "Town Meeting of the Air".

Mobile cinemas are an important branch of the P.I.O.'s activities. During 1949 more than 450 shows of documentary films were given to audiences totalling 45,000 people, many of them schoolchildren. British newsreels were distributed by the P.I.O. to every cinema in the island ; each issue was seen by approximately 40,000 people.

The Government Printing Office had a busy year, printing over 13,000,000 forms and 125,000 books of various kinds. The arrival of new machinery from the United Kingdom, including a Monotype unit and an automatic printing press, helped to expedite its work.

## Chapter 4 : Weights and Measures

### CAPACITY

2 pints	= 1 quart	8 gallons	= 1 kile
2 4/5 quarts	= 1 Cyprus litre	9 quarts	= 1 kouza { liquid
4 quarts	= 1 gallon	16 kouzas	= 1 load } measure

### WEIGHT

400 drams	= 1 oke	44 okes	= 1 kantar
1 oke	= 2 4/5 lb.	180 okes	= Aleppo kantar
1 4/5 okes	= 1 Cyprus litre	800 okes	= 1 ton
5 okes	= 1 stone		

### LENGTH

12 inches	= 1 foot	33 pics	= 1 chain
2 feet	= 1 pic	2,640 pics	= 1 mile
3 feet	= 1 yard		

### AREA

1 donum	= 60 pics	3,025 donums	= 1 acre
1 donum	= 40 yards square	1,936 donums	= 1 square mile (40/121 acre)

## Chapter 5 : Newspapers and Periodicals

The principal newspapers and periodicals published in Cyprus in 1949 were :

### DAILIES

English :

*Cyprus Mail*

*Cyprus Post* (formerly the *Cypriot*)

Greek :

*Anexartitos*  
*Eleftheria*  
*Ethnos*

*Neos Democritis*  
*Neos Kypriacos Phylax*

Turkish :

*Halkin Sesi*  
*Hur Soz*

*Istiklal*  
*Sabah*

### WEEKLIES

English :

*Cyprus Gazette* (official)  
*Cyprus Shipping News*

*Cyprus Sunday Mail and Radio Times*

Greek :

*Athlitismos*  
*Chronos*  
*Drassis*  
*Eleftheros Typos*  
*Ephimeris*  
*Ergatika Nea*  
*Ergatiki Phoni*  
*Ergatis*  
*Esperini* (formerly daily)

*Laikon Vima*  
*Nea Politia*  
*Nea Politiki Epitheorisis*  
*Paphos*  
*Paratiritis*  
*Phoni tis Kyprou*  
*Proodos*  
*Protevoussa* (formerly daily)  
*Sports*  
*Ta Grammata*

Turkish :

*Atesh*  
*Emekdji*

*Kibris*

**FORTNIGHTLIES**

Greek :

*Agonistis*

*Christianiki Anagennisis*

**MONTHLIES**

English :

*Countryman*

*Cyprus Medical Journal*

*Cyprus Review*

*Leader*

Greek :

*Agrotis*

*Apostolos Varnabas*

*Ekpedeftika Chronika*

*Elliniki Kypros*

*Kitimatiiki*

*Kypriaka Grammata*

*Kypriaki Epitheorisis*

*Kypriopoulio*

*Morphosis*

*Zontana Niata*

Turkish :

*Egitim*

*Renchber*

**QUARTERLIES**

*Co-operation in Cyprus* (English, Greek and Turkish).

**HALF-YEARLY**

*Forest Treasures* (English, Greek and Turkish).

Some of these newspapers and magazines made only fleeting appearances during the year.

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MCDONALD, J. *Investigations and Developments in Cyprus Agriculture, 1938-1948*. Nicosia, 1949. A review designed to supplement the annual reports of the Department of Agriculture which were drastically curtailed during the war and post-war years.

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**M A P S**

(Obtainable from the Director of Land Registration and Surveys, Nicosia.)

*Lithographed Maps.*

			<i>Scale</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Price</i>
Administration Map	..	..	4 miles to 1"	1947	2s.
Cyprus Motor Map	..	..	8 miles to 1"	1947	3s.
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Famagusta & Varosha	..	..	8" to 1 mile	1947	2s.
Cyprus Geological Map	..	..	4 miles to 1"	1946	5s.

Large-scale topographical and cadastral sunprints, covering the whole island, also towns and villages, are available.

**IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS**

Cyprus. Memorial from the Greek Elected Members of the Legislative Council together with the reply returned by the Secretary of State. cmd. 3477, 1930.

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## APPENDIX

### Principal development projects initiated or in progress during the year.

Number and title	Total estimated cost	Expenditure in 1949	Total expenditure to 31.12.49
<b>AGRICULTURE</b>			
Nursery Gardens .. .. ..	11,000	1,071	3,498
D.710. Olive Nurseries .. .. ..	64,500	5,638	17,070
D.101. Conversion of vineyards .. .. ..	6,250	311	1,790
D. 479-479A. Deciduous fruit stations .. .. ..	11,800	1,056	5,340
D. 515-515A. Tobacco cultivation .. .. ..	9,450	1,790	3,943
Agricultural extension work .. .. ..	2,000	845	2,278
Larnaca stud stables .. .. ..	3,000	3,660	3,870
Stud animals .. .. ..	17,500	2,348	6,084
D.610-610A. Poultry extension work .. .. ..	11,900	1,349	5,542
D.653-D.135. Soil Conservation .. .. ..	116,000	14,374	35,309
Refresher courses .. .. ..	3,000	737	737
<b>EDUCATION</b>			
D.945. Teachers' Training College .. .. ..	124,000	2,341	2,341
Building grants .. .. ..	10,000	4,686	5,088
Inspectorate and special staff .. .. ..	37,600	2,322	2,322
Pay of apprentices .. .. ..	38,700	3,788	8,552
Apprentices' Training Centre .. .. ..	27,300	4,453	6,264
D.704. Reform School .. .. ..	50,000	24,211	24,212
Probation Service .. .. ..	52,000	3,370	4,089
D.496. English School .. .. ..	39,749	492	37,224
<b>FORESTRY</b>			
D.45. Mountain forests .. .. ..	179,250	19,557	101,375
Lowland forests .. .. ..	39,000	9,472	14,723
D.102. Village Fuel Areas .. .. ..	60,000	8,040	32,703
Forest Nurseries .. .. ..	20,400	1,694	11,996
Forest roads and telephones .. .. ..	110,000	26,296	51,187
Forest buildings .. .. ..	32,000	4,462	24,946
D.980. Forest School .. .. ..	35,750	14,718	14,718
D.971. New settlement at Dhimmata .. .. ..	14,750	4,769	8,092
<b>HARBOURS</b>			
D.881. Dredging plant .. .. ..	8,400	5,118	7,111
Dredging of harbours .. .. ..	58,800	9,797	9,797
<b>HOLIDAY RESORTS</b>			
D.775. Antiquities .. .. ..	20,800	815	17,312
Improvements to resorts .. .. ..	13,700	634	634
Winter sports .. .. ..	1,800	747	747
Tourist Department .. .. ..	36,000	1,905	2,537

Number and title	Total estimated cost	Expenditure in 1949	Total expenditure to 31.12.49
	£	£	£
<b>IRRIGATION</b>			
D.203, 373, 408 and 716. Gravity irrigation schemes .. ..	650,617	67,854	356,380
D.714. Subsidised drilling schemes ..	48,000	12,146	27,941
D.86. General prospecting work ..	75,895	5,316	20,259
<b>MEDICAL</b>			
D.456. Kyperounda sanatorium ..	17,252	2,151	16,920
D.423. Rural Health Units ..	264,449	11,363	38,188
Port Health Officer ..	6,000	1,655	1,655
Training .. ..	47,122	338	338
Anti-malarial work .. ..	354,000	84,040	298,059
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>			
Town planning .. .. ..	8,000	559	1,314
D.801-D.938. Housing subsidies ..	17,400	17,400	17,400
Paphos chiftliks .. ..	150,000	28,993	114,035
Nicosia airport .. ..	300,000	38,316	44,745
D.767-767A. Girl Guide movement ..	2,650	334	1,169
<b>ROADS</b>			
Improvement, reconditioning, etc. ..	394,000	80,716	156,630
<b>VILLAGE IMPROVEMENTS</b>			
D.469. Domestic Water Supplies ..	398,650	32,478	96,248



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